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A History

of

NEW HOLLAND

Pennsylvania



Covering Its Growth and Activities During
Two Hundred Years of Existence.

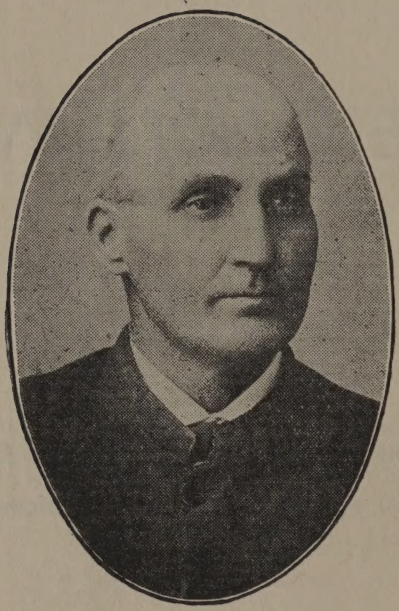
1728-1928

1728 - - 1928

as Compiled by

M. G. Weaver, Historian

New Holland, Pa.



M. G. WEAVER
Historian

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PREFACE

To the men and women who came here two hundred years ago, establishing homes and firesides in a strange, trackless wilderness where they might breathe the air of freedom, and live in an atmosphere of liberty, where they and their children might enjoy the fruits of the streams, fields and forests in God's Country, fresh and clean from His bountiful hand, that we might enjoy the fruits of their labors;

And to those who assisted in making New Holland what it is as well as to those who have spread themselves over a wide expanse of our beloved country, enriching other communities unconsciously from the quiet influences of our fathers, but who still kindly remember and cherish the memory of the home of their youth or the homes of their ancestors, as well as to those who believe that the present has a promising future for our town and for its people, this little volume with its many oversights is respectfully dedicated.

MARTIN G. WEAVER

New Holland, Pa.
April 17, 1928

THE NEW HOLLAND CLARION
New Holland, Pa.

Founding of the Town

Laying Out the Streets

Naming the Town



New Holland Before the Days of the Trolley

FOUNDING OF THE TOWN

Theodorus Eby, in September of the year 1715, settled on the banks of Mill Creek in the Zeltenreich church community about three miles southwest of New Holland. He was a son of Bishop Jacob Eby of the Mennonite church in Zurich, Switzerland, having left his boyhood home in 1704 when he was forty-one years old, on account of religious oppression. Living in the Palatinate of Germany for eleven years and finding the persecution unbearable, he, with a number of his co-religionists came to America, the new country that was known in the war and pestilence stricken nations of Europe as a haven for all harassed denominations.

In 1717, Hans Graaf, another Swiss refugee, who had lived in Germantown and the Pequea colony for twenty-one years, came with his wife and children and explored the vale drained by Groff's Run. He built his first home, on a tract of over fourteen hundred acres of land granted to him, near the Groffdale brick meeting house. It is now the home of Noah L. Nolt, situated three miles northwest of New Holland.

It was four years later, that the Webers, who had also resided in the Pequea colony, began to explore the country east from Graaf's home. In 1723, Jacob, Henry and George Weber erected three new homes in the Weaverland Valley about three miles northeast of New Holland. They applied to the Proprietory Government for three thousand acres of land south of the Conestoga.

Col. Rec. 111. 283 and "Rupp's Collection of Thirty Thousand names of Immigrants," state that on Setember 21, 1727, the ship "William and Sarah" (William Hill, Master, sailing from Rotterdam and Dover) arrived at the port of Philadelphia. The vessel carried one hundred and nine Palatines who were heads of families over sixteen years of age. The passenger list numbered about four hundred immigrants. Among these were John Diffenderfer and family; also his brother, Alexander Diffenderfer, who made his home in Olney, Berks County. (In this list John Diffenderfer's name is signed, "Johannas Tiebindorf.") Nine days later, the ship "Molly" (John Hodges, Master, sailing from Rotterdam and Deal) landed seventy Palatines at the port of Philadelphia. Among these were David Martin and Jacob Bear

with their families. The former went directly to Weaverland where his countrymen, the Webers, had provided a home. The latter settled along Mill Creek, a short distance from the forest home of Theodorus Eby.

It is not known if John Diffenderfer accompanied his brother to Olney, or what caused his delay in coming to this place. However, in the year 1728, the founder of New Holland selected for his future home, the land which is now occupied by the farm buildings of Joseph W. Martin, about a mile north of East Main Street. He was assisted in the building of this pioneer dwelling by his friends, David Martin and Jacob Bear, who had established their homes the previous year.

John Diffenderfer at once applied for a grant of land nearly a mile square, which was surveyed for him in 1735, seven years after he first occupied it; but the Patent Deed for the same was not issued until March 22, 1758 (recorded in Book A, Volume 19, on page 284, in the Office of Internal Affairs at Harrisburg, where all the original Patent records are now on file).

A small stream of fresh water, which had its origin in several strong springs on the adjoining farms (now owned by Spencer Musser and Harry L. Stauffer), flows south to north through the entire length of the Diffenderfer grant. The first home was beautifully located on a little knoll east this stream, overlooking a fertile meadow of over forty acres. John Diffenderfer and his sons made the little brook a very valuable asset to their land by means of well planned irrigating ditches (which is now almost a lost and forgotten branch of Lancaster county farm industry). They raised annually many tons of sweet meadow hay on which their well-fed stalls of livestock thrived and fattened.

The southern boundary of the old Diffenderfer grant extends within several hundred feet of what is now the northern boundary line of New Holland Borough. A White Oak Tree stood on the southwestern corner of this tract, near the site now occupied by the election booth at the intersection of the two state highways; another White Oak tree stood in the southeastern corner, on the east side of the northward turn of the Weaverland State Highway (the State road extending northward of that width over a mile, to the public road leading from the brick residence of Harry W. Martin, eastward). These roads, and one extending north and south that divided the premises into two parts, were all established during John Diffenderfer's lifetime (as shown by his will).

The Diffenderfer land is now divided into six beautiful farms, each having a full set of farm buildings with all the modern machinery, equipment and home conveniences of Lancaster County farm life. The original farm seat remained in the Diffenderfer family until 1831, when it passed from Samuel Diffenderfer (of the third generation in America) to David Martin, grandson of the first David Martin who assisted in the building of the Diffenderfer home one hundred and four years earlier. The estate has remained in the Martin family for nearly one hundred years, Joseph W. Martin being the present owner.

A section of the grant which remained in the possession of the Diffenderfer descendants until 1857, is now owned by Benjamin Hoover and operated by his son-in-law John Maser; another part is owned by William Z. Martin; another part by Hoover H. Martin; another by Joseph T. Shirk, and operated by his son-in-law, Moses Martin; and another part, with the new and modern buildings erected thereon, is owned by Jonas N. Martin.

Every square foot of the farm containing over three three hundred acres is under cultivation. The original roads with the exception of a short distance are where the first settlers had planned them, proving their far-sighted judgment of division and location.

The next warrants for land, in which New Holland figured and that were placed on the map of the country, were: two hundred and fifty-six acres adjoining the Diffenderfer land on the south and west, for Michael Rine, and two hundred and sixty-eight acres, joining Rine on the south, for Casper Diller. At the same time application was made to the Proprietory Government for four acres, by the Lutheran Congregation, to be taken or surveyed out of the Michael Rine grant, along his southern boundary where his grant should join the Casper Diller land. (Michael Rine and Casper Diller were both members of that congregation.) These grants were not surveyed until 1738, and neither Rine nor Diller bought their claims. The congregation bought their claim of four acres and their Deed and Patent was made on May 18, 1744 to George Swope, Wendle Zwecker, John Borger, Nathaniel Lightner and Michael Rine, trustees for the church (as recorded in the Office of Internal Affairs in Patent Book of Surveys A., Vol. 50, on page 286). This was the first land owned by deed within the present limits of the town.

On page 58 of "Rupp's Thirty Thousand Names of Immigrants" and from Col. Rec. 111. 331, it is learned that among

the ninety Palatines that arrived at Philadelphia, September 11, 1728, on the ship "James Goodville" (David Crocket, Master, sailing from Rotterdam and Deal) was the Rev. Casper Stoever, a missionary and S. S. Theological student representing the Lutheran Church. He soon found his way to eastern Lancaster County, and applied for a grant of two hundred and ninety-five acres of land, which was surveyed to him in 1735. It joined the grant surveyed for Casper Diller on the east, and the western part of the Warrant to Michael Rine on the north. A Patent Deed was issued to him on November 11, 1741, for the said tract, (as is shown by draft and record in the Office of Internal Affairs at Harrisburg, in Book A., Vol. 9, on page 474).

In August 1733, Leonard Stone, with eighty-three Palatines and their families, arrived at Philadelphia on the ship "Hope." He at once came to this community and bought one hundred and fifty-two acres of the land originally surveyed for Michael Rine.

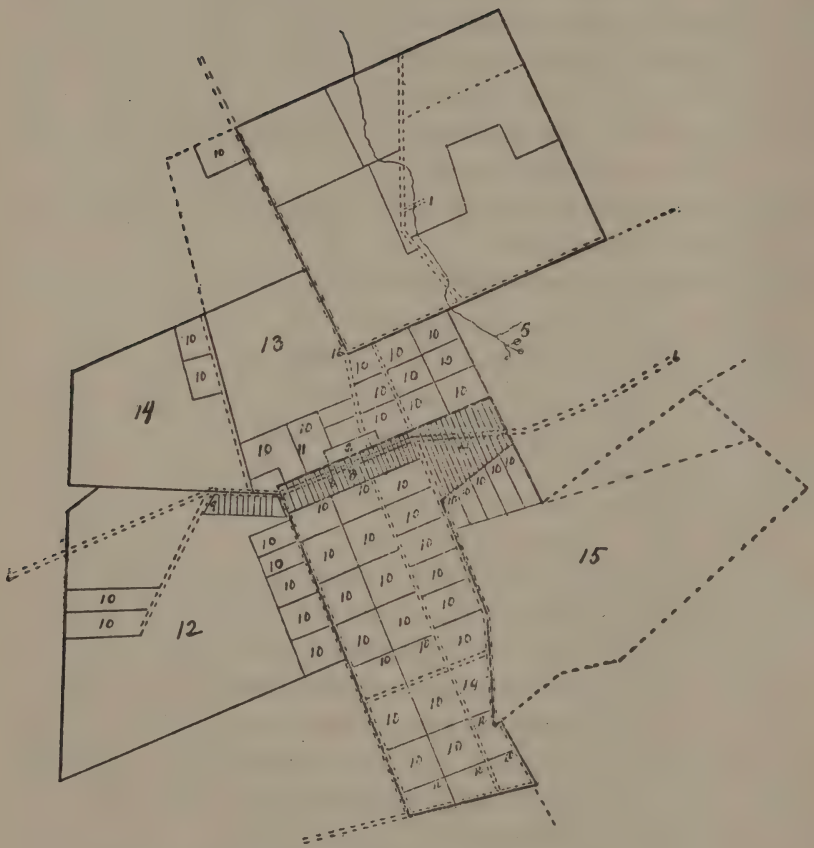
On October 5, 1737, Hans George Mentzer and Wendle Zwecker, with two hundred and thirty-one Palatines, arrived at the port of Philadelphia on the ship "Townshead," (Thomas Thompson, Master, sailing from Amsterdam and Cowes). They came to this place where George Mentzer bought the western end of the grant surveyed for Michael Rine, from Christopher Heickers, who had acquired the Rhine claim.

On June 5, 1743, Casper Stover and Catherine, his wife, sold their entire tract of two hundred and ninety-five acres to Wendle Zwecker, who was one of the first trustees of the Lutheran Church at this place. This land, on a re-survey, was found to contain three hundred and twenty-five acres of land.

When Michael Diffenderfer, the oldest son of John Diffenderfer, was twenty-one years of age (about the year 1743) he bought the claim of Casper Diller. This land comprised two hundred and sixty-eight acres, joining the Leonard Stone tract and the Church property (always called "Glebe Lands" in the old deeds). The tract extended from what is now Custer Avenue eastward to Kinzer Avenue, and running for more than a mile southward along Custer Avenue on the west, with its eastern boundary, where the State highway leading towards the Gap is now located.

His Deed Patent was not issued to him before May 20, 1760, (as shown in record books at Harrisburg, in Patent Book A, Vol. 19 on page 609; Draft Book A, Vol. 52, on page 268). The deed from the proprietors to Leonard

Stone, was not issued to him before May 10, 1760, (as recorded in the Patent Office of Records at Harrisburg, in Book A, Vol. 19, on page 564). And the deed to Christopher Heickers (which afterwards became the Mentzer farms) not until 1751.



Original Plan of New Holland

KEY TO MAP

No. 1—Place where John Diffenderfer built his first house, and where he resided until his death. The square tract which he owned is now occupied by six sets of farm buildings.

No. 2—Lutheran Church, or "Glebe Lands."

No. 3—New Design, or 25 lots crossing Main street, laid out in 1750.

No. 4—Forty building lots east of New Design, always New Holland, laid out the same time as New Design.

No. 4—Home of Captain Wiliam Smith.

No. 5—Springs on Ringwalt farm; the original water supply for the residents of New Holland.

No. 6—Main street through the town, located when the first building lots were laid out.

No. 7—Reformed Church, built in 1799.

No. 8—Methodist Church, built in 1871.

No. 9—United Brethren Church ,built in 1860.

No. 10—5, 7, 8, 9, and 10 acre lots cultivated by the early settlers living in the town, which were reached by sixteen and one-half feet wide alleys; three of the alleys now closed; the others are now widened into streets and avenues.

No. 11—Mennonite Church, built in 1921.

No. 12—325 acres of land which Rev. Casper Stoever bought from the Proprietory Government in 1741 and sold it to Wendle Zwecker in 1743. Part of it long known as the Solomon Diller farm.

No. 13—Leonard Stone, now know nas the Roland farm, including 13 farming or gardening lots. Original farm contained 151 acres.

No. 14—Christopher Heickers farm, who early sold it to George Menzer. The greater part of this farm remained in the Mentzer family for many years.

No. 15—The Alexander and James Martin farm; the greater part of which is now owned by John B. Ranck.

No. 16—Voting Booth.

The Michael Diffenderfer tract of 268 acres as original Warrant to Casper Diller in 1734, but patented to Diffenderfer in 1760, was all laid out into 25 lots named "New Design' and into 40 additional lots east thereof, and into 26 farming lots of sizes ranging from five to ten acres.

LAYING OUT THE STREETS

Although the above deeds were not issued to Michael Diffenderfer, Leonard Stone and Christopher Heickers until the said dates, they made preparations with surveys, plans and drafts on an extensive scale, to lay out a number of building lots with gardens in the rear. They built cheap one and one-half story log houses facing the main street, which was then known as the Horse Shoe Road. Nearly all of the first houses were built, with the floor of the second story projecting over the narrow sidewalk; if the house set back far enough from the street, the overhanging story served as a porch-roof.

There were no building line regulations, and every property owner could have his front lawn as large as he wished. The front gates and the first steps to the yard, entering almost every home along Main street, extended beyond the curb line of today. Some of the steps projected farther than the road, while a few, not as far as the present curb. This gave the township supervisors, the Turnpike company and finally the borough fathers much trouble.

The Main street itself, as it was originally planned was only sixteen and one-half feet wide, as attested by the first and many subsequent deeds for the twenty-five lots of "New Design."

However, the original lines of the street as intended and agreed upon by the first settlers, have been almost fully restored. This is due to a legal re-location of the road in 1795, from the Peters Road (near Groffdale rotary) through New Holland to Blue Ball, and the surveys and the passing of ordinances following the incorporation of the town in 1895.

Governed by the course of the small streams of spring water flowing through their large grants of land, John Diffenderfer of this community with the Webers and Martins of Weaverland, surveyed their land or division lines, northwest and southeast; which at right angles, invariably made their east and west lines to extend west, southwest, and north and northeast.This plan, followed by the division line of the next grant south of John Diffenderfer and the selection of four acres of land for the Lutheran Church on this

second division line that bordered on the third newly surveyed grant, governed the course and extension of the first section of the main street from Brimmer to Custer Avenue.

The "Glebe Lands" extended parallel with, and sixty-five feet north of the intended main street. This was a width of two hundred and thirty feet from the eastern side of the present Lutheran Church, a distance of seven hundred feet, and westward to the present public school building.

As early as 1748, the Lutheran congregation built a small log church on their land, near the southern boundary line, where the sexton's house now stands on North Railroad Avenue. The land east and north of the church was dedicated for a burial ground, where the old tombstones with their epitaphs still speak volumes of mute information of the past.

All the Lutheran and Reformed churches, constructed during the Colonial period in Lancaster and Lebanon counties, were built back from the highways or roads. In order that this early house of worship might be so located with its "God's Acre," and that the parsonage could be erected on the same line, Michael Diffenderfer laid out the street entirely on his own ground. The street extended through twenty-five lots, so planned to make fifty building sites. On the north side of the street, on lots sixty-five feet deep between the road and the Glebe Lands and with room intended for a garden on the rear of the house, he erected one row of one and one-half story, comfortable log or frame dwellings before 1760; some of them were built as early as 1750.

Every lot crossed the street, that was called in every deed "the Horse Shoe Road," and extending southward two hundred and eighty feet. On the south side of the street, he erected an irregular row of barns and stables for the care of their live stock, and shops where the mechanical trades of the new settlement were practiced by hand. This wise provision, for the gathering together of good mechanics in the lines of carpenters, cabinet makers, wagon makers, blacksmiths, shoe-makers, copper and tin smiths, coopers and potters, brickmakers, clockmakers, and above all, the best farmers in the world, soon made New Holland the center of trade and of political force in eastern Lancaster Co.

Rev. Casper Stoever and John Huber, west of him, took grants of land that were surveyed from Mill Creek northward, using the creek as a basis line. Their lands extended due east and west, with Stoever's corner at the head of Custer Avenue. Stoever sold his land to Wendle Zwecker in

1743, and with his son began to lay out building lots along his line, as far westward as John N. Sauder's present home. They erected a few houses thereon, allowing width for the road or street. Christopher Heickers, the owner of the land north of Stoever, erected a house at the present site of Sauder Bros. Garage. The road was extended westward along that dividing line as far as the possessions of Zwecker and Heickers.

Wendle Zwecker died about 1771 and the western part of his farm was bought by John Brubaker, who had a large family of energetic sons and daughters. The Brubakers erected for themselves, a more substantial home than some of the first houses of the town to the east of them. They made a street of their own through the northern end of their father's plantation, bearing in a southwesternly direction and connecting with the old road opposite Heicker's residence.

Both roads remained open for the use of the public for some years. But the Brubakers made their road attractive. They built two hotels, and a stable to accommodate large teams of horses and wagons, and soon drew the traffic from the old section which was abandoned after the presend road or street was legalized in 1795. This made, and accounts for the cause of, the second curve of Main street west of the square.

Michael Diffenderfer built a substantial stone dwelling on the north side of the street (on Lot No. 1, of his twenty-five lots which he named New Design) at the head of Brimmer Avenue. This first house, afterwards, became a part of the "Heister Mansion." If he would have continued Main street eastward sixty-five feet from Leonard Stone's line, which would have made the street straight from Custer Avenue to North Kinzer Avenue, the line would have extended through the swamps and springs on the Ringwalt Farm (now owned by Harry L. Stauffer, between the residences of Spencer Musser and Clarence R. Weaver). This land was marshy and impassable at that time and it was amiably agreed among all of the property owners along the line, that the highest grounds should be selected to meet the road already beaten on a similar elevation towards Blue Ball Inn. The road or street was accordingly opened and laid out in what was supposed to be a direct line to Kinzer Avenue, at or about the same place where it still remains. Forty building lots, each sixty-six feet wide, fronted on both sides of the street between Brimmer and Kinzer Avenues.

This accounts for all the curves of our Main street within the Borough limits. The scores of deeds and records prove to the author, that they were definitely planned by a people who respected the rights of one another. It was that spirit of mutual co-operation, in unison with respect and honor for the first church established in this place and the grounds surrounding it, that caused the first plans of our streets to be just where they are.

This same spirit of helpfulness, kindness, and benevolence in the life of New Holland and the community for two hundred years has made it a pleasant, profitable and worthwhile home for many people in its succeeding generations.

The old belief, that the winding street was the result of a cow path through the woods is false. It is a slander on the integrity of the Christian fathers and mothers, who sleep their last sleep in one of the most beautiful cemeteries in the country, made possible by their respect and love for those grounds, many years ago.

The first public road laid out for the convenience of this community was surveyed during the fall and winter of 1737. The Horse Shoe Road was established by an order of the Court, to connect Lancaster and the intervening country via Heller's Church, New Holland and Morgantown, with the Coventry Iron Works, near French Creek Falls.

Thomas Edwards, Hans Groff, Emanuel Carpenter, John Hendenhall and Simon King were the viewers from Lancaster County. They located the road so well, that at many places the same road bed is still in use forming one of the most important highways in the county.

The road however, as laid out and surveyed by these viewers from some distance west of the present Western School house near Groffdale Power Plant to Blue Ball, was never opened nor used on the intended place.

Michael Diffenderfer was a boy seventeen years old and lived with his father only a mile away when this road was surveyed. Leonard Stone, who assisted in planning the actual street through the town, and Wendle Zwecker, through whose future lands the original path was marked and located, lived near the village when the survey was finished. When the supervisors of Earl Township asked for the exact location of the road in 1795, the entire populace was surprised. The road was legally located and recorded fifty feet wide, a short distance south of the present street and almost parallel with it, and passing through a number of ten acre lots, which were laid out in regular order by Michael Diffenderfer and Wendle Zwecker on their plantations,

and sold to the village people for farming. At this information the village together with the taxpayers of Earl Township, was astir. A rather lengthy petition was filed and is still to be seen in the Office of Quarter Sessions, at Lancaster. In the hand writing of Frederick Seeger, Esq., who headed the list of petitioners, the facts of the situation are set forth in the following words:

"The humble petition of the inhabitants of the village of New Holland, in Earl Township, Lancaster County, humbly showeth, That from a late survey of the road, commonly called the 'Horse Shoe Road,' which leads through the village it appears that according to the courses of the old records, that the road runs south of, and not as we imagined through, but out of the settled part of said village, and as we are given to understand directly through very valuable grounds and improved lots thereof.

"THAT we are alarmed, should the supervisors of roads for this township be ordered to open that road on the ground and lots aforesaid agreeabble to the courses of the old records, pointing to be on such ground and lots.

"Your petitioners humbly beg leave to represent to show, That adding to very great injury and spoiling of their properties and losses they would sustain in their respective occupations, that the road would from the goodness of the soil, in the fall and spring seasons of the year, and not without great and heavy expenses to the township, for many years to come be almost for wagoners or other travelers; AND THAT if said road, according to the records thereof was actually opened, notwithstanding their grievances to the several owners of the said lands and lots that there would still exist a necessity to keep open the road which now leads through the village for the accommodation of travelers, and the intercourse of the neighbors and its inhabitants; This would reduce the necessity to have our lots (which are subject to yearly rent charges), cut to pieces and two public roads laid out within sight of each other, and thus be deprived of the annual income and profits thereof; A hardship which we humbly apprehend your Honors not to subject us to; Your petitioners further beg leave to represent THAT the oldest inhabitants in the settlement and village cannot remember that ever a road was cut out and opened on the same ground, whereon the old road records seem to point out the courses; AND THAT they all agree that both previous and since the settlement of the village, (Which is forty odd years past), the present road was always on or near the same ground and led through the said village which

from its high situation and stony ground it would seem nature had pointed out the ground for the supposed road, and we have humbly apprehended.

Custom, usage and valuable improvements in said village all combine to sanction our prayer.

"Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honor may be pleased to take the premises into consideration and afford us relief by discontinuing the said road agreeable to the record, and that you may be pleased to confirm the present road from the line of Philip Shaver's, thence through the said village of New Holland, (as the same road now runs) to the line of Jacob Weaver's land, thence to Blue Ball Tavern, where the same intersects with the Paxtang Road."

The petition was signed by:

Frederick Seeger, Peter Diller, Jacob Beck, Mathias Shirk, John Davis, Zaccheus Piersol, Jacob Busser, Jonathan Roland, Christian Brimmer, Andrew Brand, George Eby, Martin Rutt, George Harkins, George Rinninger, Mathias Gouls, Eohannes Saussman, Leonard Kinzer, Phillip Heitshue, George Stoffer, Eohannas Huber, William Lightner, Christian Musselman, Christian Schneider, John Bear, Jacob Diffenderfer, David Diffenderfer, John Roland, John Sturgis, John Engle, Henry Moeller, Casper Jordan.

The viewers met and granted the road. In May 1795, it was surveyed by Christian Carpenter. His draft of the same is also on file at Lancaster, showing that the road or street as the first settlers had made it, (in 1795), passed through John Brubaker's town, which included three hotels and a number of private homes, west of Diller Avenue. The surveyor made the angles, and noted them on his draft, at George Harkey's house which is still standing (though vacant) opposite John N. Sauder's garage and a fair sample of the first dwellings in the village; another, at the house of David Diffenderfer, the old Revolutionary soldier whose dwelling stood where Levi B. Weaver's brick dwelling now stands; at the house of Mathias Shirk, where the Hiester Mansion stood; at Andrew Brand's house, one of the merchant princes of the little village, who built the stone end of the dwelling usually known as Smith's Cigar Store; and at Ringwalt's line, a little east of Kinzer Avenue.

The viewers in their report, confirm the road to be fifty feet wide at all points east and west of the village of New Holland, and thirty-three feet wide through the village. They say, "The road cannot be extended further in width than two perches, without doing very great injury to the owners of valuable lots in said village."

The roads or early streets, entering the village from the north and from the south, were all carefully planned and located by the owners of the farms before 1760. But they were not legally established until such times when their courses were determined to some desirable point, or for the purpose of opening communication with intervening places.

These sturdy settlers, with their entire energy centered on the establishing of more homes in this fertile country, proceeded to lay out their large farms in five and ten acre lots. These plots were bordered with lanes or alleys sixteen and one-half feet wide, which radiated from the town or village. All of the lots and fields could be reached from the main street running through the settlement, for the same plans were used that they had been accustomed to in their European homes. The land was cheap and the new settlers needing homes were numerous. Although many of them were poor, the rich land gave many of them a start in American life, the results of which can be seen in many families of today. Some of the descendants of these pioneers still own the original lots or parts of them; others are filling responsible positions and are influential men and women in many states of the Union and the countries of the world.

The first sixteen and one-half feet wide alley, extending southward from the main street in the eastern end of the town, is now widened to Brimmer Avenue and the State highway. The one northward from the head of present Brimmer Avenue, extended through Leonard Stone's land to a lane or alley between him and John Diffenderfer, (now the State highway extending east to Weaverland. This alley has been closed for many years, but its roadbed is still noticeable in the fields of John H. Martin.

Brimmer Avenue, long known as Brickyard Lane, was laid out as a public road. It was extended in 1772, to the Peters Road at the farm of Leonard Ellmaker, long known as "Walnut Bottoms." This extension opened a line of traffic through a rich valley to the several highways leading to Philadelphia. The next alley to reach some of the intended lots, was on the road bed of present North Railroad Avenue and the State highway northward. This road was first made a legal public thoroughfare by viewers appointed for that purpose in November, 1795. A favorable report was made to open a road, from Hinkletown through New Holland, southward over the same route as the present State highway. It extended from Hinkletown to Hess' Mill and Hershey's Mennonite Church.

The next alley extending southward, is still in use and open at several places along its original course. It opened to the main street about the same place where M. F. Becker's private alley is in use, just west of the Harner Theatre building. The same alley is still in use between the building lots known as Hillcrest and the estate of Jason D. Bair, for the benefit of Mrs. Lydia Hoover's property. There are people who remember when this alley extended southward from that point, to another alley now a public road at Philip Brubaker's farm.

When John Styer acquired the Styer House lots and several of the adjoining ten acre sections, he and the Honorable Anthony E. Roberts, extended an alley between his new hotel and his barns (now Railroad Avenue). It was made southward to near Franklin street, then westward to meet the sixteen and one-half foot wide alley which was originally opened by Michael Diffenderfer. This lane was used by himself and tenants to reach four ten acre sections which he owned. The alley through his lots and orchards from Franklin street northward, being of no use except to himself, was closed, for after the building of the railroad and the laying out of Franklin, Jackson and other streets, and after the sale of Mr. Styer's lots to different parties who had access to the several tracts from other directions, the alley gradually became useless and burdensome. It was closed by common consent, excepting a short distance between several original lots.

The next alley southward, was one by mutual agreement between Michael Diffenderfer on the east side, and Wendle Zwecker on the west. This extended from main street, on the roadbed which is now South Custer Avenue, in a direct line for one mile to the southern limit of Diffenderfer's land. Here, an alley or lane extended eastward, until it connected with the alley which afterwards became the State highway. This cross lane, with several others on the farm, was closed in 1792, when the executors of Michael Diffenderfer sold the six most southern ten acre lots to Adam Diller, who added them to his other extensive lands adjoining this tract. It now constitutes parts of the farms of Martin Mellinger and Daniel S. Weaver.

The next lane or alley was fixed between the lines of the divided original Casper Stoever claim. It descended to the heirs of Wendle Zwecker, when the son Ignatious Zwecker, with his sisters Elizabeth Oberle and Margaret Hinkle, divided the farms. This became the farm of Solomon Diller (now Reuben H. Nolt's) and others on the east side and a

number of lots which afterwards became known as "Brubaker Town." The land which belonged to John Brubaker on the west side, is now known as Diller Avenue. This first became a public road when the viewers, appointed by the courts, made a favorable report on August 3, 1807, to legalize a public road over this already opened lane. They extended it to the Peters Road, between Zeltenreich Church and Rine's, now Hoober's Mill.

A number of these ten acre lots were owned by residents of the village, who supported their families by their cultivation; others were leased by the landlords to farmers "on the shares." Some of the original boundary lines made nearly two hundred years ago are still at the same places, and serving the same purposes as of yore; others have disappeared long ago. On the Stone tract, we have one of these lots, which is now largely occupied with newly built homes. This now is known as Grandview, and has been developed by Mr. E. L. Sutton, a lineal descendant of the first settler. Another plot of that tract is now largely covered by lots as developed by the New Holland Real Estate Company and part of the public schoolgrounds. Another, by the Lutheran and Reformed Church cemeteries and part of the farm of John H. Martin; four others are now included within the farms of Eugene M. Rutter and Edgar J. Loomis; while a five-acre lot is largely covered by the tract developed by Storb, Snader & Company. The plantations now owned by John B. Ranck, were originally owned by the Livingstons and Martins, who came from a different part of Europe than the other pioneers who had settled in this community. They did not enter into the general plan of selling lots, but early in the development of the village sold twenty-one acres from the northern part of their farm which was originally two hundred and eighty-five acres. This section is now occupied by the attractive dwellings of Kinzerton and Jackson streets, and Brimmer Avenue eastward.

Two whole rows of the ten acre lots and one row of five-acre lots, from the Diffenderfer tract on the south side of the original village, are covered today by the Storb, Snader & Co. Inc., Silk Mills, Musselman's Coal and Lumber yards, Rutter's Coal yard, the P. R. R. station, The New Holland Machine Company, the Milk Station, A. B. Groff & Sons' Store and Implement Warehouses, the entire Franklin street, Stauffer Sales Co., and the New Holland Brass, Bronze and Aluminum Company.

The outside boundary lines of the plot known as Hillcrest, the field owned by H. L. Stauffer, south of Hillcrest, and

the two ten-acre fields now owned by the estate of Jason D. Bair are the same as originally planned. In the dividing lines of today between the farms and homes of Philip Brubaker, Mrs. Hoover, Harry Diller, Henry McCarty and the estate of Levi Good, some of the first lines drawn by the originator of this elaborate community scheme are still partly traceable. Those on the farms of Martin H. Mellinger and Daniel S. Weaver, are entirely obliterated. The public road in front of the Mellinger and Brubaker farm houses was at one time one of the lanes or alleys extending east and west.

From the Zwecker plantation west of South Custer Avenue, there were several five-acre lots owned by people in the village. They were early added to the Custer land (now Hoover farm) and to the Peter Diller land (now Reuben Nolt's farm). The old base ball diamond occupied a section of one of these and is owned by the estate of Jason D. Bair. Several ten-acre tracts cut from the Diller farms are almost intact; they are included in the small farms of William M. Oberholtzer and Levi A. Weaver, west of the extension of Diller Avenue.

There were several ten-acre fields owned separately by residents in the village. They were cut out of the northern ends of the Heickers and Leonard Stone plantation. All of these were bought by the Mentzers, who afterwards acquired the Heickers farms, and by the Rolands or Stoltzfuses who acquired the Leonard Stone farms, and the lines were lost.

These elaborate plans of community settlement were supported by mutual co-operative farming enterprises and strengthened by a variety of the small manufacturing industries necessary for the life of the agricultural people of those early days in eastern Lancaster County. The effects of this spirit of brotherhood are felt today and it seems that the prevailing trend of the town shall always be what the fathers intended it to be--a large, influential and beneficial center of the wealthy agricultural community, noted for the resources of its farms and the character of its inhabitants.

The character and general deportment of the early settlers of this place can best be measured and more fully understood, if we give the following recital in this connection, which led to the naming of the village.

In the Almanac of the German Reformed church of 1865, is this vividly described incident: "Eight hundred unfortunate exiles from the Palatines stopped at Dortrecht on their way to take ship at Rotterdam for America, in the summer

of 1731, while the Synod of South Holland was in session at that place and were visited by the synod in a body, and were furnished by them with provisions and medicines. After Christian exhortations, many prayers, and singing, they were dismissed with the assurance that they might rely upon the Church of Holland for support in their new abode.

This promise was faithfully kept for they afterwards sent them pastors, schoolmasters, books and money.

Rev. John B. Rieger was in the first shipload that left Rotterdam after this friendly meeting. According to Rev. Gerhard and the historian Rupp, he came to Lancaster County and preached for the scattered people of the Reformed Church in Earl Township. He partly organized a congregation which was then known as Earltown in Conestoga, and which developed into the Zeltenreich and New Holland congregations. Among the number of Palatinates who were comforted by the Synod at Dortrecht, and others who later came by way of Rotterdam, are found the familiar names of the early settlers who owned lots and lived in the first homes in this place. The following are a few of these: Dr. Peter Becker, the first known physician to have lived here, and who had his office on lot No. 10, in a small house which stood opposite the present Clarion Office; Wendle Holl, who was the ancestor of the large influential family of Holls in Earl Township; John Leonard Stone, who built his first log home on the present large farm belonging to the estate of Cornelius Roland. John Stone owned all the land now occupied by the borough north of Main street and east of North Custer Avenue and was the leading spirit of this community in gathering his people into a religious organization which developed into the Reformed Church congregation.

Among the early home-makers of this community who had lived for a season on the hospitality of the kind people in Holland were: Jacob Bear, of Mill Creek, John Diffenderfer who with his family were the real founders of the community, John Michael Ranck and Christian Schneider, both of whom settled in the eastern end of the township now East Earl, and others who have already been named as the first trustees of the Lutheran Church.

NAMING THE TOWN

We are usually told that this place was first named Earltown, then New Design, and later New Holland. Traditionally, we hear the name "Saeue Schwamm" applied to this little settlement. This grew from the fact that Leonard Stone and his son George, used a strip of low swampy land at the north of the town, as a pasturing place for his hogs, as well as for the hogs of his neighbors in the town. The German residents called this spot "Saeue Schwamm" (meaning hog swamp) and this was occasionally associated with the name of the town. The name Earltown was applied to the entire township, or rather three townships, in the very early periods before the French and Indian Wars. It was never officially applied to this town.

The Blue Ball Post Office was called Earl from the time it was established in 1816 to 1833, a period of seventeen years, when it was changed to "Blue Ball."

The name New Holland was early applied to this community by common expression of the settlers. It was not because of any similarity between the Netherlands and this neighborhood, nor for any original thought that this should be the permanent name of the small settlement.

These grateful people remembered how extremely kind the inhabitants of Holland were to them and to other refugees who had often fled to the little country during the "Thirty year wars" and similar bloody conflicts. The government and the people of that nation assisted all the refugees within their borders when the cruel King of France, Louis XIV invaded their beautiful country in 1673. (When Louis XIV was repulsed with great loss to both countries he declared, that he believed God protected the people of Holland because they were so generous and kind).

The people dwelling in this community were surrounded by kind neighbors and friends and happily assisted one another to make a new start in a country that abounded with the fruits of the earth. They were thankful for their deliverance (which they attributed largely to their brethren of their several faiths who had befriended them on their way to America and who were still lending a helping hand) and they, with one common feeling and expression acclaimed this

as a new "Netherland." It was a new Holland to them (in their language they said "Ein nies Holland.")

Although this name was used by common consent and in general conversation, when the twenty-five lots were laid out by Michael Diffenderfer in 1750 (and sold in 1760), they were called New Design. However, the forty lots that were laid out about the same time on both sides of the Horse Shoe Road east of Brimmer avenue, never received that name of New Design. They were always called Earl Township and New Holland. The lots sold by the Stones, Zweckers, Heickers, Mentzers and Brubakers, were always said to be located either in Earl Township or in New Holland; sometimes both places are mentioned in the same deeds.

The early churches, schools, stores and hotels all took the prefix New Holland; and when the first postoffice was established in 1802, it was named New Holland without a dissenting movement.

Thus the name came with the people who formed the name without a vote and without a contest; a name that could not be displaced by "New Design," "Jonestown," "Brubakertown," "Kinzerton," "Hillcrest," "Grand View" or "Gilfillanville." It cannot be determined whether the name New Holland first suggested itself when the early settlers remembered the actions of the Synod at Dort in 1731, or whether John Diffenderfer and Rev. Casper Stoever, who came several years prior to that incident, had already thought of comparing this haven with the generosity of the people of Holland.

The Mennonites, who settled to the northwest, southwest and northeast of this town, had also taken refuge in Holland. They found the Conestoga Valley through the instrumentality of a large and influential committee of their church brethren operating in their behalf for many years in Holland. This committee furnished passage money and foods for many starving families on their way to the land of freedom.

These grateful people often gave expressions of thankfulness for having been permitted to reach this place of refuge, which proved to them a new "Holland," but groups in their localities of residence, unconsciously adopted the names Groffdale, Weaverland and Pequea.

New Holland Churches



St. Stephen Reformed Church

Trinity Lutheran Church

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH

The first warrant for land within the present limits of the Borough of New Holland, was made October 26, 1737 by members of the Lutheran Church. It was surveyed to them June 2, 1738 (at this same time a grant of one hundred and fifty-two acres was also surveyed to Leonard Stone, both tracts lying north of the present main street of the town). On May 18, 1744, the Proprietory government sold four acres to the Lutheran Church, in the names of George Swope, Wendle Zwecker, John Borger, Nathaniel Lightner and Michael Rine as trustees for the said congregation (as shown and described in the Office of Internal Affairs at Harrisburg, in Book of Surveys A, Vol. 50, on page 286.) It originally extended almost parallel with the main street of the town; the southern boundary being about sixty-five feet north of the present street and a width of two hundred and thirty feet, from a point west of the present parsonage to the High School building. They erected the first meeting house and parsonage in 1764, (just north of the present sexton's house) along the southern boundary line of their possessions and facing southward on a spot that is now in the northern part of the ground belonging to the Eagle Hotel. When the main street became fixed without touching their property, they bought from Dr. John Luther in 1806, an alley thirteen feet wide, from the parsonage to the main street.

This driveway is still in use and exists the same as was originally planned, between the Eagle Hotel of the present day and Werner's Music Store. The last remains of the old building, that was the home of many of the early pastors of the church, were removed by the terrific explosion of dynamite which took place in the hotel yards August 17, 1896 (four men lost their lives and twelve others were injured, several of them maimed for life).

There was a passage way four feet wide, eastward from the parsonage to the old church, whch passed the old school at the rear of the present New Holland House. All of these together with the original boundary lines, have been removed and its former space is now covered by many back yards and buildings. It was along this alley that the pro-

cession two by two, marched solemnly on the morning of the memorable December 26, 1786, to the New School, which we now find was the first of its kind in Pennsylvania.

During the week beginning Saturday, June 5, 1880, the congregation celebrated the one hundredth and fiftieth anniversary of the Lutheran Church in New Holland, Rev. J. W. Hassler, the pastor, who came here in April 1865, with great labor compiled a splendid history of the congregation. Almost all of the data was translated from the German minute books and records.

This history was read on the first day of the anniversary by Rev. Hassler. It was later reproduced in the New Holland Clarion of June 12, 1880, and we feel that the masterful contents of his paper should have a place in this work, nearly fifty years after it was written.

Rev. Hassler said in part:

"One hundred and fifty years ago in May 1730, the materials for the foundation of this congregation began to be collected. In tracing its history there is considerable obscurity in its earlier pages, because of inefficient records. Emigration from Germany to the new world began as early as 1680, but it was only after 1689, upon the revocation of the edict of Nantes which opened the flood gates of an exterminating Papal persecution, that the tide of emigration fully began. The benevolent spirit of William Penn soon made the province of Pennsylvania a favorite resort for those seeking an asylum from religious persecution.

"In 1717 the first white settler, a Swiss Mennonite, Hans Graaf, found his way into this portion of the fruitful valley of the Conestoga. He took up his abode, in what is now known as Groff's Dale, about two miles west of this place. In 1721 there were German settlements made along Mill Creek, and in 1723, the Palatinates settled in Weaverland. Similar settlements were made quite as early, if not earlier, in the Pequea Valley, which also formed a part of the founding of this congregation.

"In 1728, John Diffenderfer settled in the near vicinity of the town. Among these pioneers were a large group of Lutherans. Many of these were unfortunate in not having any one to minister unto their spiritual needs and naturally some became indifferent; but others, by means of their Bibles, catechisms and hymn books, kept the flame of their humble piety alive.

"In May 1730, John Casper Stover, a pious and learned man (who had arrived in Philadelphia from Strasburg, Germany, in 1728) appeared in the midst of these people. He

performed sundry ministerial acts although he was not an ordained minister until 1733. In the same year he became pastor here, and then it is thought that he recorded the ministerial acts that he had previously performed. The heading of this Record Book reads,

" 'The Record of Baptized Children in the Congregations of Mill Creek, Pequea and Beaver Creek.'

"The first baptism recorded is that of John Bathaser Wunrich, May 1, 1730.

"These settlements were soon gathered into one congregation at (Earltown) New Holland. Among the names on the church record for the first five years are: Ranck, Lightner, Long, Ellmaker, Diller, Swope, Kinzer, Messersmith, Fisher, Kohler and others. The first house of worship was built of logs, but the date of its erection is unknown. Mr. Stover remained pastor until 1746, when he moved to Lebanon County. During 1747-48 the congregation was without a leader, but in the spring of each year Rev. Bromholtz, located at Philadelphia, preached and administered the Lord's Supper. The number of communicant members was then seventy.

"In 1749, the congregation called Rev. Tobias Wagner, who remained as minister until 1755. He was an excellent and learned man, with a distinguished ancestry and also some learned and useful descendants; among the latter are Professor Wagner, founder of the Scientific Institute in Philadelphia and Dr. Stile A. Prevost, of the University of Pennsylvania.

"Rev. John Casper Stover returned to his early charge in 1755 and remained until 1758. From 1758 to 1763 the congregation was under the pastoral care of Rev. John Schwerdtfenger. During his ministrations the old parsonage still standing back of the Eagle Hotel, was built. In 1763 the congregation erected a stone church and abandoned the old log structure. The skeleton of which is still in existence, forming the dwelling house of Mrs. Anna Diller in the eastern end of the town. After Rev. Schwerdtfenger resigned, the congregation was supplied by Rev. Gerock, of Lancaster, for several months.

"Towards the close of 1763, Rev. Wm. Kurtz, a young man, took charge of the congregation and during his pastorate an organ was built in the church. He remained its leader for eighteen years, covering the trying period of the Revolution. He was the first to record the names of the communicants. The first list numbers ninety-nine. In 1770 one hundred and seventy-eight communed, the largest

record in the history of the congregation. It must, however, be remembered that the congregation covered a much larger scope of territory than it now does. The trying days of the Revolution greatly reduced the membership, for in 1778 the number of communicants was only forty-three. In 1772, the first conference meeting of the Pennsylvania Synod was held in this church. It was the first meeting of this nature in the country, its main object being the edification and improvement of the brotherly love of its members.

"Rev. Daniel Schroeder succeeded Rev. Kurtz in 1781 and labored here until 1784. After this, the congregation was vacant for two years but was occasionally supplied by Rev. G. H. E. Muhlenberg, then pastor at Lancaster.

"Rev. Valentine F. Melsheimer became pastor of the congregation in 1786, and served it until 1790. Mr. Melsheimer was a man of general culture and was greatly interested in the subject of education. It was through his influence that a large school house was built upon the grounds of the congregation, by the united efforts of the membership and the community. This school house was dedicated December 26, 1787, with great rejoicing. For many years this school building was the educational center of a large scope of territory. It rendered valuable service in the promotion of education in the community.

"Rev. Henry Moeller succeeded Rev. Melsheimer in 1790 and continued until 1795. The congregation prospered during his labors. As the pastor also served other charges, services could not be held here regularly by him. This induced the church council to order 'that every Sunday when the minister was absent, the school master shall, at precisely ten o'clock in the forenoon, read sing, pray and catechise under the direction of the pastor. The exercises shall not continue longer than twelve o'clock, and for this service of the school master the congregation was to make a free will gift each time.'

"For several years after Mr. Moeller's removal, the congregation was without a minister. In 1798, Rev. John Plitt was called, who remained until 1813. Mr. Plitt was an eloquent and learned man, but was influenced somewhat by the rationalistic tendencies of that age. During his ministry the interior of the church was remodeled. A wooden floor took the place of the brick paving and a stove was introduced, the congregation having previously attended services during the coldest weather without any fire in the building. The introduction of the stove however, gave rise

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to quite a controversy, and the innovation was opposed by many with pious determination.

"In 1804, the congregation was incorporated, this charter of incorporation still remains unchanged.

"In 1814, Rev. Peter Filbert was called as the successor of Mr. Plitt, and remained in charge until 1823. During his ministry the use of the English language was introduced, another innovation which was strongly opposed. Mr. Filbert married Miss Lydia Diller, a sister of Roland Diller, Esq. After his resignation here, he studied law and moved to Reading where he died. His widow died in that city only a year ago, in her eighty-second year.

"Rev. John Fred Engel succeeded Mr. Filbert in 1823, but he died in August of the same year after a few months labors. His remains lie in the cemetery connected with the church.

"Rev. Charles Ruetz, was called immediately after Mr. Engel's death, but his labors were also of short duration, owing to poor health and he died in Pottsgrove in 1825.

"Rev. John W. Richards served as a supply to the congregation during Mr. Ruetz's illness. He succeeded Mr. Ruetz as pastor, remaining in charge until 1834. By this time there was a demand for more frequent English preaching and funds were raised to procure the means of lighting the church. On Sunday, June 22, 1832, the first evening service was held, which has been continued regularly since then. In 1833, it was determined that the services of the church should alternate in English and German.

"In 1834, Rev C. F. Welden took charge and served with acceptance until 1838. He is the oldest living pastor of the congregation and at the present has charge of the St. Peter's Church in West Philadelphia. It was greatly regretted that he was not present at this jubilee service.

"From 1838 to 1842, the congregation was without a regular pastor, but was supplied every four weeks with German preaching by Rev. Samuel Trumbauer, of Mechanicsburg.

"Bergstrass, Muddy Creek and Alleghany churches, hitherto connected with this congregation, withdrew during this interval and formed another charge.

"In 1842, Rev. W. F. Lehman, now a professor in the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Columbus, Ohio, became pastor. He continued in this capacity for a few months. He was succeeded by Rev. J. C. Barnitz, in 1843,who served until 1848.

"After a vacancy of two years, Rev. John Kohler was called. He entered upon his duties in March 1850, continuing until January 1864. During his pastorate, a new parsonage was built in 1850 and the erection of the present house of worship was begun the same year. The cornerstone was laid on August 31, 1850, and on April 27, 1851, the new sanctuary was dedicated to the service of the Almighty God.

"After the completion of the new church, the Sunday School was organized. There was previous to that, only a union Sunday School of the Lutheran and Reformed congregations. During Mr. Kohler's ministry the church made steady progress in numbers, efficiency and liberality. After his resignation the church remained vacant for about fifteen months when in April, 1865, Rev. J. W. Hassler, the present pastor, was called."

Rev. J. W. Hassler, served the congregation for twenty-six years. He preached his final sermon April 5, 1891, to a large congregation. He preached his first sermon in the same place on April 5, 1865, only a few days before the tragic death of President Lincoln.

The Clarion of April 11, 1891, gives the following items of interest as to his pastorate here:

"He officiated at 363 funerals.
"He officiated at 248 Baptismal Services.
"He officiated at 173 Weddings.
"He officiated at 283 Confirmations."

Rev. Hassler died at the age of eighty years in the Lancaster home, December 26, 1905. He was active in the ministry for fifty-one years.

Rev. F. F. Buermyer, of New York, became pastor of the church in November 1891. He served the congregation until the end of April 1899, nearly eight years.

During the pastorate of Rev. Buermyer at this place, an event of more than ordinary note took place. The congregation and the church at large, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of Rev. Dr. Kohler's service as minister in the congregations of his choice. There were addresses and congratulations by many of his pastoral friends.

Dr. Kohler was graduated from the Gettysburg Theological Seminary in 1844, and fulfilled his fifty years in the Christian ministry October 31, 1894. He came to New Holland as pastor of the congregation when they still worshipped in the old stone church on North Railroad Avenue, in 1850. He was its pastor when they moved into the new building in 1851, and when the first separate Sunday School

was organized in 1853.

He served as pastor of congregations in Stroudsburg, Allentown and Mechanicsburg and then became a permanent resident among his people when he retired.

Rev. Albert Steinheiser, of Allentown, followed Rev. Buermyer. He was installed as minister July 5, 1899, and served this people for nearly four years. He accepted a call from his home congregation in January 1903, to act as assistant to his father, who had been pastor of the Allentown church for many years.

Rev. Theodore Hoffmeister served as pastor of the congregation for several months, until Rev. S. M. Mountz was installed on March 27, 1904. He and his wife were the first occupants of the present parsonage. It was erected during the autumn of 1903, on the site of the lifelong home of Solomon Diffenderfer and his family.

An event of more than local note, was the one hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of this congregation, during the week beginning August 13, 1905. After serving the congregation for over eighteen years, Rev. Mountz closed his ministry here on Sunday, September 24, 1922, to accept a call from the York Springs church.

In the reports published in the Clarion of September 23, 1922, we note that he preached over two thousand sermons while he was here; he officiated at one hundred and forty-eight funerals, and fifty-eight weddings; and confirmed the membership of one hundred and seventy-two additions to the church.

Rev. E. L. Leisey succeeded Rev. Mountz, and began his pastorate just before the Christmas holidays near the close of 1922. He remained here until the close of June 1926, when he accepted a call from the Danville Trinity Lutheran Church. He served this congregation for three and one-half years.

After the pulpit was supplied by visiting ministers for several months, the present pastor, Rev. Roy L. Winters (whose boyhood was spent in Denver in this county), took charge of the congregation on September 19, 1926. Rev. Winters was in his country's service during the World War, serving in the 316th Infantry, 79th Division. He spent over a year in France and saw service at Meuse-Argonne, St. Mihiel defensive and in the Verdun Sector.

The first trustees of the Lutheran Church, who took title to the four acres of land in 1744, were Wendle Zwecker, Michael Rine, Nathaniel Lightner, George Swope and George Borg, or Berg. Wendle Zwecker was mentioned

before as having taken a grant of two hundred and ninety-five acres of land. He lived on the land long known as the Diller farm, now owned by Reuben Nolt. Michael Rine, lived on the bank of Mill creek near Zeltenreich's Church. He owned a large tract of land and why he did not accept his original claim at New Holland (later taken by Leonard Stone) cannot be determined. Nathaniel Lightner lived in Leacock township near the Presbyterion Meeting House, west of Intercourse. George Swope lived in Upper Leacock near Mechanicsburg. The home of George Borg has not been located.

The remains of Rev. John Casper Stover, the first pastor of the Lutheran Church at this place is interred in the "Old Hill Cemetery" near Lebanon, where a monument was erected in his memory in 1895. He was the first owner of the large Diller farm through which Diller avenue passes.

The first Sunday School organized in New Holland, was in the summer of 1824. It was a union school and was continued by the two churches, the Lutheran and Reformed, until the summer of 1853. In this year the two denominations organized separate schools. B. F. Kinzer was the Lutheran superintendent. The Reformed Sunday School met in their recently remodeled church.

About two acres and one-half of the original grounds bought by the Lutheran church in 1744, was found to be at the wrong place for cemetery purpose. In 1848, all of their land west of North Railroad avenue adjoining the old school grounds (now the site of J. P. Rutter's stables) together with the old parsonage, was sold to Roland Diller. The parsonage was also moved to the brick house (now owned and occupied by Jacob Myers and family) on East Main street, where it remained until 1904.

The late W. W. Davis, of Sterling, Illinois, in one of his notes of early New Holland published in the March 5, 1910 issue of the Clarion says that he remembers of a small log house standing on the spot of the present church. In its rear was the old graveyard. To the west of the graveyard stood the old stone church with its four sides facing east, west, north and south, a large door on each side with an open space to the graveyard from every side. He adds that this open space and building with its wide recesses at the four doors, was a great place to play "hide and seek" and "tag".

He also states that the contractor who erected the new church in 1850, came from Lebanon, and that his carpenters and brick-layers worked every day from daylight until night.

At another time he says, "Frank Kinzer always led in the congregational singing, and that services were alternately in German and in English as late as 1850."

Mr. Davis wrote many reminiscences for the Clarion, from which quotations will appear at several places in this work. All of his many references to landmarks in this village, which was his boyhood home, are found to be reliable and correct when checked up by the public records of the county.

THE REFORMED CHURCH

John Teevidarfor (Diffenderfer) the first man who settled in this community was a member of the Reformed Church. He built for himself and family, a home situated northeast of this place, in 1728.

In 1730, Christian Schnieder, also a member of the Reformed Church settled in Weberstahl (colonized by Mennonites who were his neighbors in Switzerland).

Prior to these settlements, a number of members of the Reformed Church established their residence in Mill Creek Valley, southwest of this place. The founding of homes was more numerous and earlier in this place than in other sections of this vicinity. The Zeltenreich community soon became the center of worship, as these faithful pioneers met in their private homes for divine worship.

A deed of conveyance from George Seldomirdge and Mary, his wife, was given December 22, 1760 (recorded in Deed Book, Vol. 22, Page 15, at Lancaster) to John Teevidarfer, Philip Ranck, Peter Baker, Leonard Stone and Michael Teevidarfer, in trust, for the Presbyterian Meeting and Burying grounds in Earl Township. This legal paper contains valuable information of the early movements of the church fathers. In it is recited "that WHEREAS, Andras Seltenridge, the father of George, had long since intended to give and make over a free title of a piece of land for the perpetual use and behoof of the said Meeting House and Burying ground, but postponing this act of kindness, his pious wish and purpose was now carried out by his heirs."

From this old document we learn that the Meeting House was built and the burying ground was in use long before the making of the deed in 1760. We also learn that the trustees of the congregation lived in the vicinity of the present site of New Holland.

Subsequent entries in the church records at Zeltenreichs show that Christian Schneider, of Weaverland, and his family, the Diffenderfers and the Stones, north of the town, as well as many of the residents of the village, were communicant members of the congregation. Among the trustees of this historic place of worship were Michael Diffenderfer ,the real founder of our town, Peter Becker, the first known physician in New Holland, and Leonard Stone, who lived just north of the village.

From an interesting historical review of the Zeltenreich congregation that was written by the pastor, Rev. D. W. Gerhard, in the New Holland Clarion, April 15,1874, we take the following:

"Rev. Michael Schlatter states in his 'Travels in America' that on the 11th of June, 1747, he preached for a small congregation called Zeltenreichs, which was previously served by Rev. John B. Riger. He also says, that there are twenty heads of families here, who offered to assist according to their ability, to support a pastor."

The oldest church register ever used by this congregation is the baptismal records of 1746.

This congregation was without a regular pastor for some years. However, in the absence of the minister, services were often conducted by one of the members living in New Holland. Leonard Stone, an educated man from the Palatinate, adopted the excellent practice of collecting the faithful on Sundays for divine worship, reading a sermon from some commentary on the Gospel.

Rev. John B. Reiger, mentioned in another part of this work, was the first regularly appointed pastor of Zeltenreichs. He was followed by Rev. John Weldschmid (whose remains repose in the shadow of the Swamp Church, near Blainsport). Then followed in order, the Revs. Folk, Loesher, Deckert, Otterbein and Berger, serving the members' spiritual needs until 1766. In this year Rev. George Wittner, of the Palatinate, became minister of the congregations of Zeltenreichs in Earl Township, Muddy Creek, White Oak and Bethany.

Rev. Wittner remained as minister for three years. There was no regular pastor until December 15, 1770, when Rev. John C. Gobrecht was installed, who remained during the darkest period of the Revolution. He took an active part in the cause of the Colonies and was frequently engaged to address troops and drafted men on their way to the Continental army.

After Rev. Gobrecht's pastorate closed here in 1779, the congregation was again supplied by various ministers including the Revs. Hendle, Reichert and Hautz, until Rev. John C. Wilhelms became its pastor in 1788. It was during the following decade that the population center of the membership had moved to New Holland. In 1799 it was decided to erect a new house of worship in this town.

A deed of conveyance for one acre and six perches of land was given to the trustees of the congregation, by Mathias Shirk and wife, on February 27, 1799. The present church was built the following year. It is the most beautiful type of Colonial architecture remaining in Lancaster county.

The congregation made its move of over two miles into the new home during the summer of 1800, where Rev. Wilhelms continued as pastor until 1802. He was succeeded by Rev. Charles Helfenstein who remained until 1804. Rev. J. Theobald Faber was installed at this time, who administered to the congregation's needs for over twelve years. Rev. Fred. Herman followed, who served only a short time when Rev. Daniel Hertz, a Theological student, took charge of the congregation. Rev. Hertz was fully installed as its leader in 1823, and successfully led them for twenty years. He was followed by Rev. P. D. Shroy, who at once began to keep more accurate notes ofthe church events. He also revised all previous records and compiled them in regular order.

Rev. Shroy, whose pastorate began in February 1844, and closed in 1848, first introduced the practice of English preaching in regular church meetings.

Early in 1849, the Rev. Thomas C. Porter was secured as teacher of the High School in the town. He preached in English every Sunday, while a minister was secured who preached in the German language every four weeks. The latter was filled by their former pastor, Rev. Hertz.

From 1852 to 1858, Rev. Albert Helfenstein, Jr. led this and the Bethany congregation. It was during this period that the interior of the church was completely changed. The two bells that hung in the steeple since the church was built in 1799, were removed. The present bell was installed and from the beautiful tower has rung the call to worship over the valleys ever since.

The first separate Sunday School was organized in April, 1853, with John W. Sheaffer as its president, and William Goshen as superintendent (both of whom soon afterwards moved with the New Holland Colony to Sterling, Illinois).

A new brick parsonage was erected during the summer of 1857 and, with several changes and improvements, has been the pastors' homes ever since.

Rev. Augustus Gast was pastor from 1859 to the spring of 1865, when he became a chaplain in the army.

During the years of 1865 and 1866, the charge was supplied by the Rev. John G. Wolff and the Rev. John G. Fritchey, until the call to Rev. D. W. Gehard was accepted in February, 1867. Rev. Gerhard was pastor of the congregations of Zeltenreich and Heller's for over twenty years, when in 1887, Heller's or Salem congregation was taken from this charge, and he moved to Lancaster.

In his final report of his ministry here, as given in the Clarion of November 26, 1887, it is found that he officiated at 562 funerals, 550 weddings and confirmed as full members of the church, 585 persons. He conducted the singing schools during five winters and was leader in the church choir for seven years. Rev. Gerhard died at his Lancaster home at the age of 68, on December 23, 1906.

In the spring of 1888, Rev. Stewart Hartman became pastor of the charge and remained here until October 4, 1891, when he accepted a call to the Second Reformed church, at Harrisburg.

From the spring of 1892 to July 31, 1894, Rev. F. A. Rupley filled the pulpit of the several churches of the charge. On the day of his departure for his new home and pastorate in Alexandria, Huntingdon county, he was married to Miss Annie E. Besore. They traveled the entire distance by horse and buggy, the trip over the mountains taking them a week.

Rev. John G. Noss came here from Westminster, Maryland, in 1894. On January 19, 1895 he was installed as pastor of the charge, which he served for twenty years. He retired from the active ministry in 1914, but remained a resident of the borough until his death on June 16, 1921, at the age of eighty-three.

In the summer of 1899, the church which had been built one hundred years before, was entirely remodeled. The exterior was left the same as of yore. But the large entrance was built on the west end of the building through the base of the tower. The wide sandstone steps and landing, improved the appearance and added more room to the interior. Many memorial windows were placed at that time. The galleries and the wine glass pulpit which were built in to the original building were removed when the interior was remodeled in 1853.

This statement is given by Rev. Gerhard, taken from the old German accounts, that the church, organ and wall around the graveyard, cost $6,637.14.

It is tradition that the bricks for the church were made from clay that was dug from the earth and burnt on the grounds, now a part of the cemetery.

Rev. Noss supplied the charge, until his succesor, Dr. George S. Butz began his ministerial duties on April 11, 1915. Dr. Butz had continued in this capacity for nearly three years, when he died at the home of Dr. A. V. Walters, of Brownstown, where he and his famliy had gone to pay a pastoral visit. His death occurred on December 28, 1917, at the age of forty-seven years. He was the only minister of this charge to die in the service of his pastoral duties.

Rev. C. G. Bachman, the present pastor, is a son of the late Rev. James N. Bachman, of Lynnport, Pa. He began his duties in his charge the first week of October, 1918, near the close of the World War. In the year 1920, a movement was started for the installation of a modern pipe rogan, and to enlarge the church by an addition to the eastern end of the building. The interior was remodeled and the sanctuary as it is now found, was dedicated on Sunday, May 1, 1921. The Colonial architectural outlines are the same as originally designed by Mathias Shirk, the architect and builder (who lived in the "Heister Mansion" at the time of this work in 1899).

(Mathias Shirk, widely known in Lancaster County, later moved to Union County, where he died October 21, 1828, in his sixty-eighth year.)

The congregation worshipped at New Holland as one united body until 1839. In this year Rev. Daniel Hertz, a former pastor of the joint bodies held services again at Zeltenreich. This resulted in the organizing of a separate congregation. From the Clarion of August 22, 1908, it is learned that the fir st church built for that congregation was erected of logs in 1745. The second one was built of brick and dedicated April 23, 1842. It was in use until 1907 when the present fine church was erected and dedicated during Rev. Noss' pastorate, on Sunday, August 16, 1908.

The two congregations have constituted the New Holland charge, since 1887.

It may be a matter of much interest to the present generation and especially to the students of history, that in the year 1834, the first English writing appears in the records of St. Stephen Church. The pastors until that time, were men

who preached in the German language only. (Gleanings of Church History---Clarion.)

In 1914, when Rev. Noss ended his fifty years in the Christian ministry, this church and other congregations, entered into a hearty co-operation of celebrating the event by appropriate programs.

It is a peculiar coincidence that twenty years before this fiftieth anniversary service for Rev. Noss (who resided in the borough at the time) the Lutheran church celebrated an event of like significence. As stated before, it was to honor the fiftieth year of service of Dr. Kohler, who likewise had come to New Holland to spend the evening of his life among his people.

On page 67 of Rev. Gerhard's History, is this statement: "The seventh report of the Philadelphia Sunday and Adult School Union, held in the Second Presbyterian Church, May 25, 1824, the report of the Sunday School Society of New Holland, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, says, 'We opened school with about ninety scholars.' "

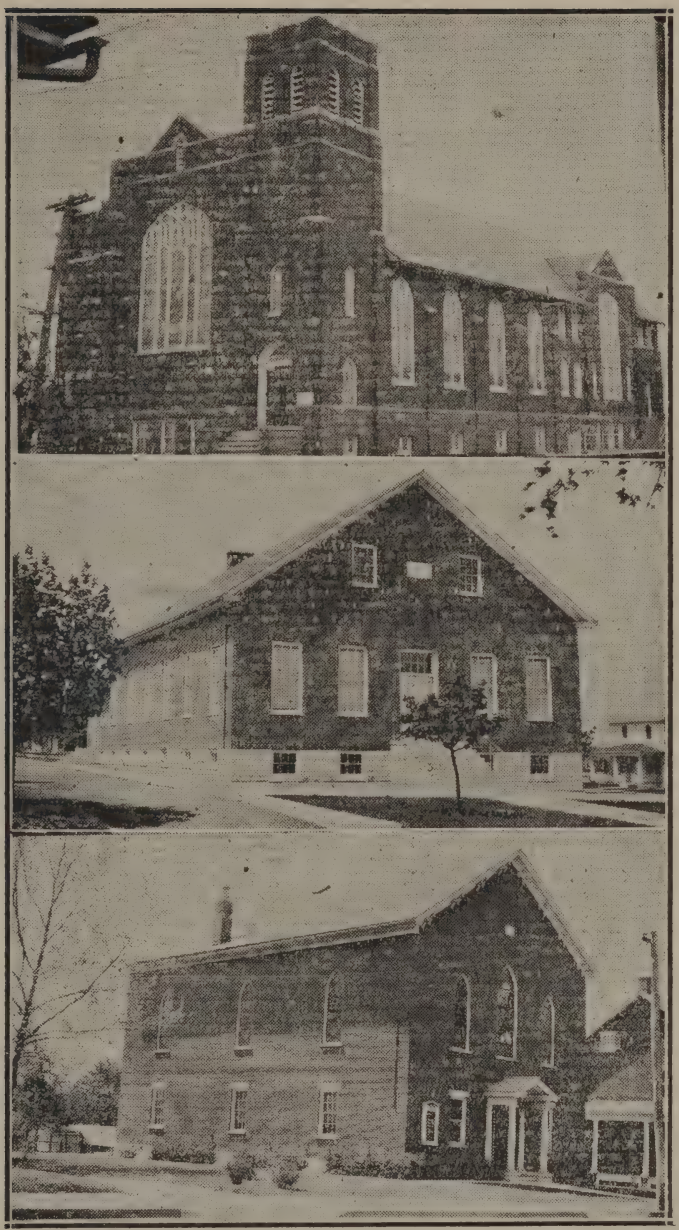
On page 68 he says, "How long this organization continued, or what it accomplished we cannot state now, for after all this is involved in obscurity for a number of years, until we find the Union School, under the leadership of members of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches.

"The meetings were held in what was known as 'The Old School House,' except during the year beginning in June, 1846, when the Union school convened in the Methodist Meeting House.

"On May 4, 1851, the school held its first session in the Lutheran church, which had been lately erected, and in which a room had been fitted up for Sunday School purposes.

"The Union Sunday Schools were discontinued in the spring of 1853, when every church organization formed a school with their own members as officers and teachers."

For a long time, Richard Goshen of the Reformed church and Mrs. Catherine Wilson of the Lutheran church, served as superintendents of the joint schools. (Mrs. Wilson was a sister of Roland Diller, Esq. She is often quoted as having been one of the best informed women in the village, thoroughly master of her brother's extensive library, which was one of the best in eastern Lancaster County.)



Upper---United Brethren in Christ Church. Center---Mennonite Church
Lower---Methodist Episcopal Church

THE UNITED BRETHREN IN CHRIST CHURCH

Rev. Christopher Grosh, who lived on the farm now owned by H. L. Stauffer, familiarly known as the "Wiedman Farm," was the first member of the United Brethren church in this section. He was one of the original trustees of the school that was built on the Hinkletown road in 1786, and made a very acceptable address at the dedication of that early seat of learning. On the second floor of his home, he had provided a large room that was used for public worship. For many years this was the only place where religious meetings in that locality were held. It was here that the first divine service of that denomination was held by Bishop Christian Newcomer, of Frederick County, Maryland, in 1802. The first converts outside of the Grosh family were added to the church at this time. The following year Bishop Newcomer came again to this community. Among the places in which he preached, was the old log school house in New Holland, on Sunday, May 15, 1803. This was the first service of the U. B. Church in the village.

The members of the new congregation were most numerous near the Grosh home. An organization, which finally developed into Ranck's church, was formed with Christopher Grosh as pastor. It was visited by many learned preachers of the church at irregular intervals.

Rev. Grosh died in 1829, but his house continued to be used as a place of worship. It was owned until 1844 by his son-in-law Daniel Weidman, when the first meeting house was built at Ranck's.

Rev. Samuel Seiders was appointed to the Ranck's charge in the spring of 1858. In the fall of that year, with the support of several of the members living close by, he held services in a frame building known as the Western School Hous, near New Holland. A class was organized under the leadership of Lewis Peters, who thirty-four years later became the minister of the congregation.

Rev. Seiders died while he was serving this pastorate, and lies buried in the cemetery adjoining Ranck's church.

Rev. Jacob Brewer the following year, 1859, held a very successful revival in the old log school house, in New Holland (which Rev. Grosh assisted in building over seventy years before). A permanent congregation resulted in the

summer of 1860, strong enough to build a new church in this town. It was built of brick, 30 by 40 feet, on a lot bought from Cyrus Mentzer. Dedicated on September 9, 1860, this building was in constant use for thirty years. It was during the pastorate of Rev. J. G. Smoker that an addition 22 by 39 feet with a tower entrance was built. It was re-dedicated on October 21, 1900.

The enlarged building accommodated the attendance, until 1920, when plans for enlarging the auditorium were made. These drafts failed to meet the requirements of the congregation. They decided to build a new church and ground was broken on March 22, 1922. The cornerstone for an edifice (50 by 108 feet) of sandstone and brick, was laid the following June 25th.

The new chapel was dedicated on June 24, 1823, having been built during the pastorate of Rev. C. R. Longenecker. It is at present the largest church in the borough, with seating capacity for 1200 persons.

The basement was finished and fully equipped for the various purposes of the church, in the summer and fall of 1927. It was dedicated on Sunday, January 22, 1928.

There are beautiful and well kept cemeteries adjoining the churches at New Holland and Ranck's.

The pastors of this charge since the first meeting house was built are:

Jacob Brewer,	1859-60
George Gilbert,	1861
W. S. H. Keys,	1862-63-64-65
I. Baltzell,	1866
A. E. Yeager,	1867-68
D. O. Farrel,	1869-70
M. J. Mumma,	1871-72-73-74
J. F. Mower,	1875-76-77
J. C. Mumma,	1878-79
J. B. Funk,	1880-81-82
E. L. Hughes,	1883-84-85
M. J. Mumma,	1886
T. Garland,	1887-88
J. R. Meredith,	1889-1890
Z. A. Weidler,	1891-92
Lewis Peters,	1892 to May 1893; Died May 11, 1893. Aged 57 years
Born near New Holland.	First Class leader at New Holland, in 1858. Buried at Steelton.

S. C. Enck,	1893
M. A. Salt,	1894-95-96
J. G. Smoker,	1897-98-99-1900-01
C. A. Mutch,	1902-03-04-05-06
I. H. Albright,	1907-08-09-10-11
J. R. McDonnald,	1912-13-14-15
Wm. W. Freidinger,	Appointed to this congregation; preached one sermon here Oct. 20, 1916 and died the next morning at Jonestown, Lebanon Co.
O. G. Romig,	Succeeded Freidinger for one year, 1916
C. E. Rettew,	1917-18-19. Missionary to the Philippines, supported by the New Holland church
C. R. Longenecker,	1920-21-22
L. R. Walters,	1923-24-25
F. C. Aungst,	1926-27-28

The Sunday School was organized soon after the church was built in 1860.

Levi Hoover was the first superintendent of the Sunday school and continued for twenty years in that position, when he was succeeded by I. M. Groff. Mr. Groff was followed by Aaron H. Bear, who had a combined service as superintendent here and at Mt. Tabor for more than fifty years.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

An early history of the Methodist Church in Lancaster county, states that there were religious meetings held in the private homes of John Davis and Isaac Davis in New Holland, as early as 1797. These men are buried in the old Welsh Graveyard, near Terre Hill, evidently originally belonging to the Churchtown colony.

The first authentic statement of a Methodist preacher being heard in New Holland, is made in the biography of the celebrated Rev. John Summerfield. He was appointed to travel for a month in the fall of 1824, in the interest of the Missionary board of the church and on the trip formed societies in New Holland, Churchtown and Strasburg, re turning to New York in October.

In 1827, Rev. George C. Cookman, another noted minister of the early church, was appointed to the Lancaster cir-

cuit which included New Holland. He was due to preach here every six weeks, in the often mentioned school house on the Hinkletown Lane.

In 1828 there were several announcements in the columns of the weekly paper then printed in New Holland, that regular services were being held in the school house.

Tradition has it, that Bishop Asbury preached here, when he visited Lancaster County in 1823.

The next authentic record of the growth of this congregation, is that on August 30, 1836 the Hon William Hiester and wife, sold one half acre of ground on the north side of East Main street to Abraham Groff, William S. Warren, Peter Bachman, Samuel Trout, Abraham Johnson and Jacob Frederick to them as trustees of the Methodist Church. There is no record of when the meeting house was built. But nine years later, October 22, 1845, the trustees of the congregation, sold the same ground together with a brick building known as the "Methodist Meeting House" to Hon. Anthony E. Roberts, of New Holland. He in turn, sold it to the Earl School District six years later (Recorders Office, P. 9-475).

The Sunday School and church services, however, continued in this building and in the old school house for a number of years.

Rev. Dr. H. V. Givler gives the information that in 1860 a noted evangelist, Rev. J. W. Carroll, was invited to hold a continued series of meetings in the Town Hall (second floor of Diller's Hardware Store). The result was a wonderful revival and the congregation re-organized with new energies. Regular preaching and class meeting services were held in the school house which was now owned by private individuals who were friendly to the cause. They erected the present beautiful church during the summer of 1871.

The ground was sold to them by Jacob Mentzer, a merchant, on November 18, 1871. The two-story brick structure with Sunday School rooms and auditorium, was completed in 1871. In the fall of 1904, under the pastorate of Rev. B. Rushtoll, the heating system was placed into the basement and the entire building was generally remodeled It was re-dedicated on January 22, 1905.

For a term of years this congregation owned a part of the Cemetery fronting on North Railroad Avenue. It was by mutual agreement (which always existed among all of the different religious bodies in this place) transferred to the Lutheran Cemetery and church.

In this transaction the names of the trustees fifty years ago, are recorded as Augustus Buck, Amos Diller, Cyrus Mentzer, B. J. Silliman, Jacob Geist, John Diller, Jacob Mentzer, Robert Townsley and Abraham Houser.

In the beginning of November, 1921, the congregation, with their pastor, Rev. E. R. Harshberger, celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the church, dating from the time of the first dedication in November, 1871.

Rev. Dr. H. V. Givler, now living retired on North Custer Avenue, became a member of this congregation in 1860. He began his ministry at Bainbridge, this county, in 1876. He has since served his church in positions of trust and honor, in eight different states, and is one of the oldest and most respected ministers in the church.

A. Stanley Kendig in a history of this church, written in 1921 gives the following statements.

"Rev. A. Diller Geist, a teacher in Earl Township and a member of this church and Sunday School was ordained to the ministry in 1886. He filled different charges until his retirement period, several years ago. The most of his work was in charges in the Philadelphia conference.

"Rev. William H. Seyfert, son of Hon. A. G. Seyfert, joined this church in 1895, during the pastorate of Rev. H. W. Millison. He is now pastor of a Congregational Church in Webster, N. Y.

'Rev. Warren E. Hershey left this congregation and became pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Hamilton Square, N. J.

"Miss Anna E. Hershey was engaged in missionary work for many years and in clerical work for religious societies.

"Miss Martha E. Bowers, member of the Sunday School and church, is a graduate of Lucy Webb Hays Training School and was long the pastor's assistant at the Wesley Methodist Church, Worcester, Mass.

"Maude Spotts Patterson also received her first Christian inspiration at this place and is now a regularly ordained minister, somewhere in the middle western states."

A. Stanley Kendig, a member of this Sunday School since his childhood, is a graduate of Boston University School of Religious Education.

Since the building of the present church in 1871, the pastors, serving this and other congregations as part of the charge, were:

Rev. Joseph Gregg,	1871
Rev. Nathaniel Turner	1872
Rev. Joseph Gregg	1873

Rev. Samuel Horwell	1874
Rev. John T. Gray	1874-1875
Rev. Edward Devine	1876
Rev. John W. Geuger	1877-1878
Rev. F. M. Brady	1879-1880
Rev. Charles S. Mervine	1881
Rev. Hiram J. Illig	1882-1883
Rev. W. P. Clark	1884
Rev. A. M. Strahorn	1885
Rev. William Vandershene	1886
Rev. J. A. Cooper	1887
Rev. G. S. Kerr	1888-1899
Rev. Thomas S. Crooks	1890
Rev. W. E. Yeager	1891-92-93
Rev. H. W. Millison	1894-95-96
Rev. A. M .Strahorn	1897-1898
Rev. T. S. Minker	1899-1900
Rev. W. E. Verity	1901
Rev. J. C. Petre	1902
Rev. J. T. Herson	1903
Rev. Albert Stork	1905
Rev. H. Foster Hamer	1906-1907
Rev. G. H. Ketterer	1908-1909
Rev. Leo P. Zook	1910
Rev. E. C. Wright	1910
Rev. S. R. Dout	1911-12-13
Rev. T. L. Hunt	1914
Rev. G. V. Tovey	1915-1916
Rev. F. A. Tyson	1917-1918
Rev. Charles E. Borasten	1919
Rev. Eugene B. Harshberger	1920-1921
Rev. Harry A. Swartz	1922-1923
Rev. Howard A. Brettle	1924-25-26-27
Rev. H. N. Olewiler	1928

Rev. Olewiler took charge of this congregation and of the Leola Church in April of this year.

THE MENNONITE CHURCH

The Mennonites held religious services at their spacious farm houses, in the Groffsdale and Weaverland Communities before New Holland was founded. The Mennonites are agricultural people and each generation succeeded the fathers of the farms. The result is, that there are over a thousand acres of land in the Conestoga Valley, that have never been out of of the original family name since they

were acquired by the first settlers. Only a few of their families resided in the town prior to the year 1900.

By a kindly agreement with the Methodist Episcopal Church, their building was rented, for the use on evenings that did not interfere with their own services. The first appointment was filled by Bishop Noah H. Mack on August 21, 1910.

The services continued every two weeks in these rooms for twelve years. A Sunday School was organized in the church on April 11, 1915, and met every Sunday afternoon, in addition to the regular evening worship, until March 1922. The new meeting house at the corner of Roberts Avenue and Broad Streets was finished in this year.

At the end of 1910, there were twenty members living in the town. When the new house of worship was completed, there were one hundred and thirty members of the congregation, the number of which steadily increased.

Bishop Noah H. Mack, the local pastor, was also Bishop of the Weaverland-Groffsdale District of nine congregations until the spring of 1926. In this year he accepted a call from the York and Adams county district to fill a similar position.

On December 20, 1923, Noah N. Sauder was ordained as an assistant minister to Bishop Mack. On August 26, 1926, Joseph S. Graybill, residing on Broad Street, was ordained Deacon and assistant to Sauder.

This congregation later acquired a plot of ground to their church property which in the future will be used as a burial place. It is located east of North Railroad avenue, fronting on Conestoga street, and adjoins the Lutheran and the Reformed cemeteries.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION

In July 1919 Father W. E. White (now deceased), of St. Clements, Ephrata, with the assistance of others, established a Mission of his church in the Showalter Building.

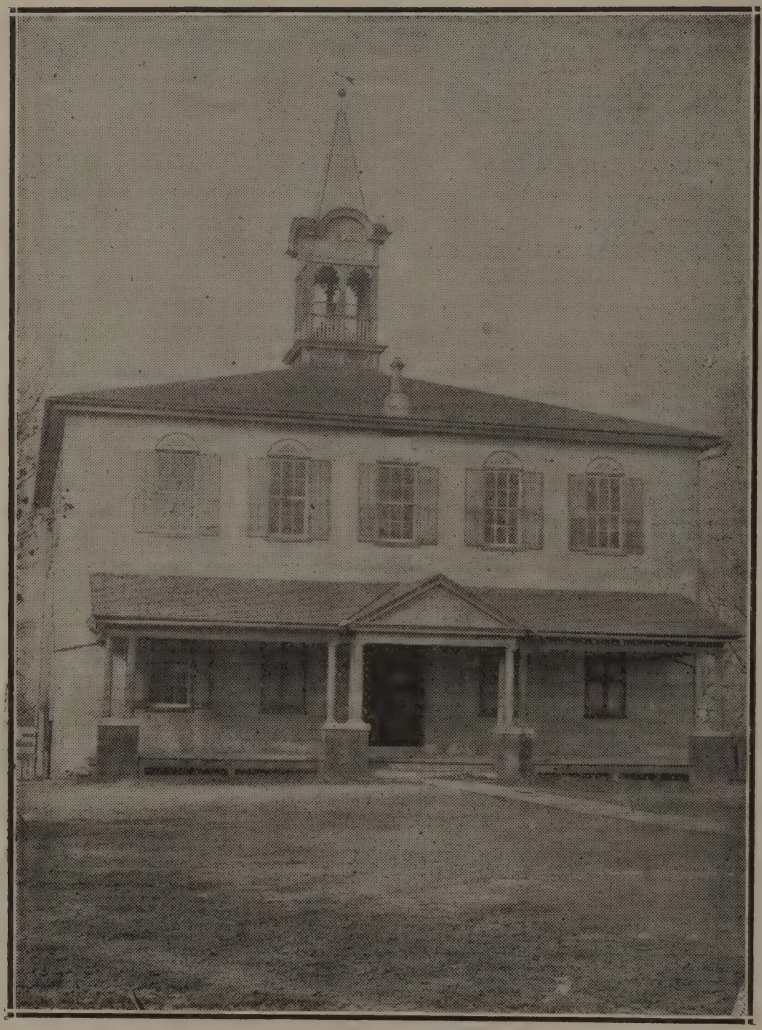
It is understood that the Jesuit priests connected with St. Mary's Catholic church, Lancaster, had established a Mission in this borough as early as 1808, and celebraetd mass in the several homes of their people at that time.

Since the death of Father White, the services in this chapel are under the directions of the Redemptionist Fathers, at Ephrata, as outlined nine years ago.

History of the Old School

As Given By

Frank R. Diffenderfer



One of the Town's Early Schools

HISTORY OF THE OLD SCHOOLS

In volume 2, on page 181 of the proceedings of the Lancaster County Historical Society, we find the following and only full history of the first regularly established school in the village of New Holland, which has been claimed as the first "Free School" in Pennsylvania. This history was compiled and written by Frank R. Diffenderfer, Litt.D., who was born in the New Holland, April 3, 1833, and received the rudiments of his bright educational career within the walls of this old school house. After his death at Lancaster, September 29, 1921, this society who knew the worth of his literary productions, passed the following resolution at its October meeting of that year:

"Resolved, that in the death of Frank R. Diffenderfer, Litt.D., the city and county, as well as well as ourselves, have lost a man of great worth and one whose place will not easily be filled.

"This society was largely his creation. For seven years he acted as its unpaid secretary; for two years he served as its Presidents; and when death came upon him, he was its First Vice President. No name appears upon our records so frequently as that of our departed friend, and no papers delve into the early traditions of this locality, as those which came from his fluent pen. He was easily the most valuable member this Society ever held. We ne'er shall see his like again.

"He hated inaccuracy in papers relating to our history. Often with great earnestness we heard him on this floor denouncing loose and incorrect statements and then giving the correct version of the alleged events. His knowledge covered a wide range, and everything he did showed clearly his marvelous memory and extensive reading. As an author he was known throughout the state. His kindly face will be sadly missed at our meetings and his effort on behalf of the Society cannot by others easily be supplied.

Lancaster County Historical Society.

Secretary—Adaline B. Spindler. President—C. I. Landis

In the opening paragraph he says, "This was a common school as it was designated at that time, not built under the direct church auspices, although the buildings were church men, but the people of the entire community irrespective of church affiliations, and which I believe is un-

equalled by any similar enterpirse in the state of Pennsylvania. Its origin antedates Franklin College by one year. The prime mover of the enterprise was Frederick W. Melsheimer.

"The school of which I shall speak to you was founded in 1786. Fortunately the minute book has been carefully preserved, and I propose to let it tell the story of the early and successful attempt to establish a 'German and English Common School' for that is the title its founders gave it.

"But to return to the first page of the record book on which I find the following:

Anno Dommini 1786

" 'The Rev. Mr. Melsheimer, minister of the German Lutheran Congregation at New Holland, after previous consultations first had with diverse persons upon the the subject of building a common German and English School house, proceeded to open a subscription paper in the German language about the neighborhood of New Holland for the purpose aforesaid. Dated, New Holland, June 19, 1786.'

"A subscription paper was likewise drawn up by Frederick Seegar, in English and handed about the neighborhood, which is in the following words, viz.

" 'WHEREAS, the education of youth is of great importance, and it ought to be the first object of parental care, as it tends to promote everything that is dear and valuable in this life. THEREFORE we, the subscribers, in and about New Holland, being perfectly sensible of that truth and of the utility and conveniency that would arise to us and to our posterity, and to persons residing at a distance from a well adapted school established at the place aforesaid.'

" 'THAT in order to attain to those beneficial ends, it is proposed by us, and by the German Lutheran Congregation, at New Holland, aforesaid to erect and build a Common German and English School house upon the Glebe Lands, at that place, free to and for all religious denominations, and persons that shall willingly subscribe and pay any sum of money towards the building of the same. AND in order to secure and ascertain the right to each and every subscriber, their heirs and successors, to either or particular school, it is proposed that the names of the subsbcribers shall be entered upon record; and that before any foundation of the building is laid, proper articles of Agreement and Government, will be entered into and executed by and between the subscribers and the said congregation, so as

to assure each and every person having subscribed and contributed his or her right title and interest thereto.

"AND it is further proposed that upon a meeting (to be called for that purpose) a sufficient number of persons among the said subscribers shall be elected to be the visitors or trustees of the said schools, and to prescribe rules for the good government thereof.

"THEREFORE we, the undersigned persons in order to foreward so laudable a purpose, do hereby agree and promise to pay upon demand of the person authorized to receive such sums of money as will appear annexed to our respective names.

JULY 19, 1786

"Following the above heading we have the names as subscribers and contributors to the English heading:

Bernard Wolf	Fred Seeger
Henry Merkley	Peter Diller
John Sheibley	Thomas Henderson
Mathias Shirk	Jonathan Roland
James McConnall	Zacchus Piersol
George Hildabrand	John Flengenbein
John Luther	John Houser
John Bender	Jacob Sheibley
Nich. Yondt	Nath. Ellmaker
Henry Lippert	Fred Baker
Bastian Stopplebein	John Divenderver
Isaac Reiff	Leonard Diller
Peggie Martin	Robert Wallace
Valentine Kinser	George Stoner
Henry Kinser	Samuel Ranck
John Tshick	Valentine Ranck
Alexander Martin	Martin Road
Peter Summy	Jacob Weidler
Jacob Carpenter	Charles B. Sturgeon
Peter Ecker	Michael Kinser
Christ Snyder	Henry Road
John W. Kittera, sq.	Gabril Davis
George Pinnock	George Matter
Merchant, Philadelphia	James Old
John Hatzell	Emanuel Carpenter
Edward Gruber, Esq.	Wm. Smith
Peter Hole	David Jenkins
Jacob Miller	Josua Evans
Philip Kessler	George Staley
John Smith	John Greiss

"Total English subscriptions amounted to 50 pounds, 16

shillings by fifty-nine persons. The highest in this list of contributions was by George Pennock, who gave three pounds.

"The subscribers under the German list of subscriptions were:

Valentine Petre
John Shultz
John Hoover, Jr.
George Hildabrand
John Hildabrand
Isaac Reiff
Martin Sheaffer
Philip Sprecher
John Engle
John Bitzer, Jr.
George Weick
Peter Grim
Sophia Miller, widow
Catharine Lippert
Sophia Hole, widow
Peter Miller
Jacob Stein
Christian Hole
John Lippert
Fred Sheaffer
Andrew Deig
Jacob Glasser
Adam Diller, (fat)
Christian Grosh
Balser Bitzer
John Diller
George Louard
George Illy
Peter Burkholder
Michael Hildabrand
Eurich Snyder
Martin Nehr
Andrew Shreder
Wendel Kremer
John Rine
Christian Fellenbaum
From a Friend
Valentine Kinzer
Adam Diller, Mill Creek
Michael Graybill
Isaac Diller
Michael Brauss
Melchoir Loutermilch
Seltenreich's
George Seltenreich, Sr.
Jacob Berkhouser
George Seltenreich, Jr.
Baltsar Besshoar
John Brubaker
George Menser
Wm. Deets
Henry Fetter, Sr.
Isaac Ganshett
Henry Richwine
Martin Road
John Divenderver
Christian Brimmer
John Luther, Esq.
Jacob Divenderver, Jr.
Jacob Beck
William Barlitz
George Troutman
John Sheibley
John Sheaffer
Jacob Ringwalt
Christian Miller
Mathias Sherrick
Fred Seeger
John Bitzer
David Divenderver
George Stahley
John Smith
John Houser
Sebastian Stoppelbein
John Borrell

"Total original German subscriptions amounted to 47 pounds, 19 shillings and 9 pence, given by seventy-four persons.

"Later there were various subscriptions whose names were not on the original lists:

Robert Cockley	Henry Hambright
David Waltson, Esq.	Jonas Withers
John Miller, Sheriff of Lancaster	Wm. Crawford

"Frederick Seeger, donated his Township clerk fees.

"A contribution from Leacock Township.

"Conrad Myer, of New Holland, gave a small sum by will.

"Elias Myers gave two hundred feet of boards.

"John Luther and Frederick Seeger each gave their executor's fees which they received for the settlement of the estates of John Engle and Christian Brimmer, respectively.

"James Old, allowed the trustees a ten plate large stove for his subscription money which was 2 pounds and 10 shillings.

"Michael Saner made and allowed gratis, two pairs of front door hinges.

"Peter Shaffer, hauled one day stones with his own team, gratis, and George Diffenderfer and John Berlett assisted in loading them.

"George Weick made and delivered gratis, for the school house one pair of door hinges, besides his subscription.

"N. B. The hinges mentioned, George Weick made and charged for, equal to his subscription.

"After this we have another interesting statement as follows: Names of persons who have contributed by furnishing the trustees with sundry building materials; also the names of persons who have performed labor by way of contributions; likewise the names of persons who have subscribed money, and then have furnished building timber for it, to allowed to them in the payment of their subscription money, viz:

"George Hildabrand, two logs for his subscription money, excluding one day hauling stones, and also allowed upwards of twenty-six rafters.

"James Thomas, two logs, and hauled them in, and also hauled rafters from Jacob Hoover's land.

"James Martin, two logs and some rafters.

"John Divenderver, two logs delivered.

"Jacob Stone, two logs delivered gratis.

"George Stone, two logs delivered.

"Christ Meyer, two logs delivered gratis.

"Jacob Sensenig, one log delivered gratis.

"Valentine Kinser, two logs delivered gratis.

"Christian Hole and Jacob Hole, eight logs delivered by Christian.

"Michael Hildabrand, three logs delivered.

"Jacob Hoover, Martin's son, two logs delivered gratis.

"Joseph Hoover, two logs delivered gratis. N. B. George Hildabrand hauled them in.

"Isaac Reiff, two logs hauled.

"Martin Hoover, six logs, hauled by George Menzer, for pay.

"Jacob Groff, two logs hauled gratis.

"Jacob Summy, two logs, and were hauled by Peter Miller.

"Philip Sprecher, two logs, and hauled them in.

"Balser Bessore, two logs, and hauled them in.

"George Menzer, one log, and hauled it in.

"Jacob Glasser, two logs, and hauled them in.

"Gabril Davis, two logs, and hauled some stones at different times for his subscription money.

"Total number of logs for school house delivered as above mentioned, some were thirty-five feet and some were forty feet long, were squared by some at their own expense, and others at the expense of the school house, and amounted to sixty logs.

"Christian Summers delivered gratis, ten bushels of lime.

"Adam Miller will deliver 600 feet of lath according to size wanted.

"Jacob Weaver, Sr., delivered gratis, ten bushels of lime.

"Jacob Weaver, Jr., sawed a log of his own into lath and delivered them free.

"Elias Myers, will deliver 200 feet of oak boards or pay the value thereof in money at his own choice.

"John Bitzer, Sr., Ludwig Wolfard, and Fassnacht have promised to deliver one thousand shingles.

"Solomon Myers, book binder, of Ephrata, allowed for the benefit of this school, in his charges for this record book the sum of 2 shillings, 6 pence.

"Isaac Brubaker, Christian Brubaker, Jacob Koch, David Fellenbaum, Jacob Hauser and John Adam Roads, who were not subscribers, worked at sundry times in the cellar of the school house,as did many other subscribers, in particular persons residing in New Holland.

"And all persons who have worked in digging the cellar were found diet by the inhabitants of New Holland, and the cellar was completed with little or no charges.

"John Luther, Esq., allowed several oak boards for benches, and also found pint (pint) boards for the trustees benches gratis.

"Jacob Weaver, (Miller) allowed gratis, upwards of one hundred feet of oak boards for benches to the school house.

"Messrs. Steinman, Albright and Lawn, printers of the Borough of Lancaster, were so kind and obliging as to print gratis, about eighty hymns, to be distributed among the people and to be sung by the school youth in vocal and musical order, under the directions of Mr. Shaffner, on the 26th day of December, A. D., 1787. Being the dedication day of the school house.

"Widow Wittwer, one large log for a girder; ditto of Zacchus Piersol for another girder.

"The foregoing for the time being concluded the subscriptions and the donations toward building the school house; but the men who were foremost in the work relaxed none of their efforts to push matters ahead and to provide regulations for the school, when the time for actual school work should come along.

"I accordingly find the following memorandum in the minutes:

" 'After some progress was made by the Rev. Mr. Meltzheimer, of the German Lutheran Congregation, in collecting subscriptions, for building a common German and English School house, at the place aforesaid, it was thought advisable, that some certain permanent fundamental rules for the good government of the same should be first introduced for the consideration of the subscribers. And accordingly a set of rules were drawn up in both the German and English languages:

" 'WHEREAS, on the fifth day of August, A. D., 1786, previous notice being given to the subscribers, a number of them met and thereupon the business explained and the set of Articles and Fundamental Rules were read and considered. And after some time spent in the consideration thereof, they were agreed to, and finally ratified and confirmed as such.'

"Then followed what are called 'The Fundamental Rules' of the School Institute of New Holland, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

"These rules were sixteen in number, and occupy more than six folio pages. They are entirely too long to be given here, but I will nevertheless present some of the salient features found in them.

"After a preamble in which the project for the erection of a school building and a meeting for the adoption of the rules and regulations are set forth, the latter were adopt-

ed. Rule first, is so wise and liberal that it must necessarily be given in full:

" 'First---That as the said school house is to be built by common contribution, and a general collection of all the subscribers, so it shall always, be and remain to common and general use and benefit, to and for all persons of whatsoever religious principles and denominations they may be, and they who have voluntarily subscribed towards so laudable an undertaking shall enjoy an undisputable right to the said school, and the use and benefit thereof in common for themselves and for their heirs forever hereafter.'

"The second Article provides for the registration of all the names of all the subscribers and the sums they gave, and for the names of those who rendered other assistance and services for the information of all concerned and of their posterity.

"That was a most wise provision and enables me to present this sketch of their excellent work.

"The third Article recites that the school house shall be built on the 'Glebe Lands,' belonging to the German Lutheran Congregation. In consideration of that service, the only reservation made by the congregation, was that every German school master, shall at all times by virtue of his office be obliged to attend the said congregation upon every one of their divine services and shall then and there serve to them in the capacity of a precentor and organist, and that no other German master shall be admitted or appointed, other than such a person as shall be adjudged capable to perform the duties and functions of a precentor, or person that is capable to lead the choir upon Divine services, and that can act as organist as aforesaid.

"The fourth Article declares that as the school house shall be built at the common charges and for common uses, it shall always be kept in good repair in the same way.

Article Fifth, provides for the selection of thirteen trustees or overseers of the school, to represent the German and English Nations, and further provides that the persons to be elected as aforesaid should be men of sound judgment and understanding and of a discrete and good moral conduct in life.

(The men who select school directors today are not so scrupulous and particular in their duties, as were those men or old.)

"Article Sixth sets forth the duties of the trustees, which are about what they would be today under like circumstances.

"Article Seventh gives to the subscribers and contributors the right to call the trustees to account every six months, and this duty is especially enjoined upon them.

"Article Eighth, provides for the election of a new set of trustees every three years; the old one were eligible for re-election.

"Article Ninth declares that trustees may not resign before the expiration of their full term of office without permission, and should they do so, they should forfeit twenty shillings for the use of the school. Failure to attend the regular trustees' meetings was also punished by a fine of five shillings; sickness or failure to receive notice of the time of the meeting were deemed allowable excuses.

"Article Ten, provides for a President and a Clerk to be selected by the trustees from among their number; and also defines the respective duties of these officials.

"Article Eleventh declares that before any school master is accepted he shall undergo an examination by the minister of any religious denomination in the presence of the trustees. When selected the teacher was required to promise that he would do his utmost to teach the pupils committed to his charge, and observe good moral conduct, both in and out of the school room.

"Article Twelfth, provides for action if the conditions of the previous article are violated; the teacher shall be exhorted to do better, but if he fails, then the trustees shall discharge him, no matter how good a teacher he may be.

"Article Thirteenth provided for the keeping of records of the school, and reports thereof, to the trustees.

"Article Fourteenth provides for public examinations every six months, which fact shall be published in all the neighboring congregations four weeks before the day on which they shall take place.

"The exercises shall be opened by a suitable and to the occasion well adapted oration, to be delivered at the request of the trustees by some neighboring minister, and after the said examination shall be made, a collection shall be made, and a part of the money collected on the occasion to be applied towards distributing it among such of the scholars as have performed and behaved well, suitable presents, such as books or some such things for their encouragement.

"Article Fifteenth provides that such perons who were not original subscribers, but who nevertheless desire to be partakers of the benefits that shall come from the said school, may become entitled to all such benefits upon the payment of the sum of ten shillings. But the trustees

shall have the power either to increase or to decrease the amount, according to the financial standing of the applicant. But no one shall under any circumstances be admitted to the privilege gratis.

"The Sixteenth and last Article is that the foregoing Articles shall be regarded 'Forever Hereafter,' as the Fundamental Rules of the school by the trustees; and so good did they evidently believe them to be that they declared that they should 'remain by them unalterably.'

"The trustees were required to sign them, and that this solemn act shall go on record. Accordingly, at a meeting of the subscribers and patrons held August 5, A. D., 1786, a ballot was had, and the result showed that thirteen trustees had been selected.

"These then in accordance with the proviso in article sixteenth, made the following declaration:

" 'In Witness Whereof, and in conformity with the above article 'sixteenth,' we the undersigned persons being duly elected by the majority of the subscribers, present, Trustees, have to these presents, and in behalf of ourselves, and of our brethren whom we represent, and by their special direction hereunto put our hands and seals this fifth (5th) day of August, Anno Dommini, One thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, (1786)

Fred Seeger	Jonathan Roland
Christopher Grosh	John Luther
James McConnall	David Divenderver
Samuel Ranck	Michael Martin
John Sheibley	George Hildabrand

"All the above certified to on December 4, A. D., 1786, by John Luther, President of the board, and Frederick Seeger, as clerk of the same.

"On the 10th of August, a business meeting was held at which time the president and clerk were selected.

"The question of erecting the building also came up, when it was unanimously agreed that a cellar be dug 15 by 20 feet on the north side and that the house be two stories high and Tough Tailed, 40 by 35 feet.

"Considerable difficulty was experienced before an agreement could be had, and towards which point of the compass the building should front.

" 'After much debate and several ballots it was agreed that the house should be fronted as it now stands,' which to my recollection was towards the South.

"Frequent meetings of the trustees were now held, and on August 22, a committee was appointed to make a con-

tract with Joseph Williams, a mason, 'to wall the cellar upon the cheapest manner possible.'

At a meeting held on September 19, an animated discussion arose over the question whether there should be two chimneys at each gable, or only one. By a vote of five to three, the single party won. Strange to say they contracted with a Berks County man, George Zeigler, to supply three thousand oak shingles needed for the roof. It was also agreed that the windows be made and constructed five by four lights, of seven by nine glass, and that they be made so that they raise upwards.

"At a meeting held October 3, a contract was entered into with John Houser, to square fourteen logs or more as occasion may require, agreeable to written directions at the rate of two shillings and six pence per log.

"On the day aforesaid, Jonathan Roland, Fred Seeger, John Luther, Hen. Markley, and John Sheibley, they being duly authorized for that purpose, entered into a written contract with Valentine Kinser, carpenter, for doing the following work, viz:

"That the said Valentine Kinser, cut, haul and square two girders of 41, and 42 feet in length, befitting the school house, now to be built; that he joints and fixes the joices into said girders, and upon the outside logs thereof, according to usual custom of such like methods of building; and that upon both the first and second story of the house. That he must cut and square a sufficiency of rafters and assist in putting them up. (But they, the rafters, must be hauled on the ground where he will square them.)

"That the said Valentine must nail on the laths, That in every pair of rafters he will put a collar beam to be cut by him; but hauled at the school's expense; That he will roof the house, (shingles and nails to be found), That he will make a sufficiency of clap boards to shut up the both gable ends of the house; but the timber for the clapboards must be found by him ready to be split; The necessary posts for the gable ends he must put up, but be found.

"That for all which work to be done and performed in a good workmanlike manner, the said committee in behalf of themselves and said trustees have bound themselves to pay to the said Valentine within reasonable time after the work shall be done, the sum of Thirty Silver Dollars.

"And it is understood that the said Valentine finding his own hands' diet.

(At this point in the minutes Fred Seeger makes an apology for his condition of the minutes; But Dr. Diffenderfer,

who copied these entire proceedings from the original minute book, says they are a marvel of neatness and correct spelling; especially does he consider them as a wonderful production because Mr. Seeger was at the time of their writing in the country of his adoption only twenty-five years.

On April 19, 1787, is this entry:

"This day the school house was finally raised without any further charge, other than about five quarts of rum, as all those persons who were kind enough to attend and assist in raising of it were found diet by sundry inhabitants of New Holland.

"At a meeting held by the trustees on April 21, a letter from Jacob Shaffner was produced and read, requesting the appointment of master of the German school as soon as the building was ready. As the conduct and abliity of the said master was personally known to all of the trustees, the said Jacob Shaffner, was, by the unanimous vote of the trustees, met, appointed master of the German School, subject to the Fundamental Rules thereof; And also subject to such further rules and by-laws as shall be made and prescribed to him from time to time during his said appointment and good behavior.

"On November 15, 1787, an entry on the minutes states that James Old was kind enough to give to the school a second ten plate stove with four pounds for one twelve months.

"On December 17, 1787, this entry is copied:

" 'This day a quorum of the trustees met and appointed Wednesday the 26th of the same month being the 2nd day after Christmas for a suitable day for the dedication of the new school.

"President and clerk, with Jonathan Roland and James McConnall were appointed to invite several clergy gentlemen; Whereupon the Rev. Robert Smith of Pequea, the Rev. Mr. Muhlenberg and Rev. Melsheimer, to dedicate the house; Rev. M. Hontz and Rev. Mr. Elling were invited by letter, accordingly, as were also persons and preachers of all religious persuasions invited.

"Before the dedication came along, I find another interesting record in the minutes: 'Upon the request of the trustees, a number of joiners met together for the purposes of making a number of benches for the use of the school house.'

"Accordingly the following persons, joiners and others, met to make said benches: Valentine Ronk, 2 days; Isaac Eby, John Kling, George Stahley, Jr., Morgan Evans, John

Bare, Henry Stricklers, and a Mr. Hirshberger, one day, and worked gratis.

"John Houser, Samuel Ronck, Christian Grosh, Henry Markley, and Jacob Beck, attended gratis and assisted to complete the work, and their diet was found to them by sundry of the trustees and other inhabitants of the place.

"We now come to the day so long looked forward to, the day that was to witness the completion of the precious eighteen months of hard labor.

"That day's proceedings as they are found in the minutes recorded by the vigilant and indefatiguable clerk, Seeger, deserves to go on permanent record as they stand, and here they are:

" 'December 26, 1787

" 'This day being appointed pursuant to a former resolve of the trustees to celebrate the dedication of our School House, which was performed in the following order:

" 'Between the hours of nine and ten o'clock, the scholars, the singers, the ministers, the trustees and elders, church wardens of the German Lutheran and Calvanists, (German Reformed) Churches and the members of those churches, and a number of persons, English and Germans of other religious societies assembled in the parsonage house in New Holland; and about half after ten o'clock proceeded from thence in procession to the school house in the following order.

" 'The scholars, the singers, the masters, the ministers--The Rev. Mr. Melsheimer, Professor of the College at Lancaster, and a gentleman lately arrived from Germany, Magister Richie, President, Clerk of the Trustees, Elders, Church Wardens, of the said churches and the members thereof, and other persons, as above mentioned.

" 'After the procession had moved from the said place, which was done in great order, two and two, headed by the President and the Clerk of the trustees, and approached the school house, the doors were opened and after they and the people that attended had taken their seats, the solemnity was introduced by vocal music, by the scholars and singers in the German under the directions of Mr. Shaffner, the German master; Magister Richie then opened the solemnity with an excellent and to the occasion well adapted prayer and oration; This was followed by vocal music by the former.

" 'The Rev. Mr. Melsheimer, then followed the former, and in a most elegant, argumentive and eloquent discourse from Proverbs of Solomon, Chapt. 3rd, from 13th to 16th

verses, showed to the great and entire satisfaction of all that heard him, the utility and necessity of supporting and maintaining this, and all other schools, and clearly demonstrated both public and private advantages from them.

" 'After which the Rev. Prof. had finished his discourse, he was followed again by vocal music as before, when Christopher Gross, one of the present trustees, a person of both moral and religious character, and an impartial preacher of his society, at the request of the professor and trustees concluded the whole by a very rational, and to all who heard him, satisfactory discourse, well adapted to the occasion and confirmed of what had been delivered to the hearers by the professor, as co-inciding with him fully and so finished with prayer; this being again followed by vocal music.

" 'After which the Fundamental articles of the school were read in both English and German; this done the last vocal music followed; the whole was performed with such good order, decency and decorum as would have done honor to a more respected place than this.

" 'All that is to be lamented on this occasion is that the collection which was raised under the door, although it is presumed upwards of seven hundred people were present, and it is supposed between four and five hundred of them entered the house, proved short of the most sanguine expectations of the trustees, and that though many able people were present, yet the sum towards discharging the debts contracted, and raised on this solemn occasion, amounted to only six pounds fourteen shillings and ten pence, to be accounted for, according to Mr. Luther.

" 'It is yet necessary to mention that the Rev. Mr. Muhlenberg, the Rev. Handle, Rev. Robert Smith, and the Rev. Mr. Elling, have severally by letter signified the causes of their non attendance on this occasion.

" '1787, Attest: John Luther,

" 'Fred Seeger, Clerk. President.'

"Philip Ronk of Earl Township, left by will in 1784, five pounds in gold and silver, to go to some Charitable and Religious purpose. The trustees applied for it and by giving an indemnifying bond to apply it to the school uses obtained the money.

"But a considerable debt rested on the school which it was desirable to get rid of, so subscription papers were once more prepared and carried around.

"The papers were dated January 26, 1788; the sum of 36.4 pounds resulted from the effort.

"Mr. Melsheimer, who seems to have been the foster father, the good genius, or whatever else we may choose to call him, of the school enterprise, set out on his own account and collected 18 pounds 13 shillings and 6 pence from subscribers who had not yet paid.

"The election for a master to teach the German school has already been mentioned, but I find no record of a master of the English school having been made prior to October 29, 1789, when a meeting of the trustees was called to take some charges against the then master.

"The minutes read: 'complaints were made by Mr. Sheibley and Jonathan Roland, against Master Wm. McGreary, who was present and had opportunity of defense.'

"Master Sybert, of Lancaster, was next proposed in the room of Master McGreary; but as there was no quorum, no action was taken. What the complaint against McGreary was, we can only infer from the following resolution, passed at the same meeting: 'That the trustees for the future will support and maintain the Fundamental rules for the school and such other rules as shall hereafter be made by them, and that no master shall officiate in the school who shall neglect or refuse any such rules.'

"Later a vote was taken in the board; the above named masters being candidates; the ballot stood 8 for Sybert and 2 for McGreary.

"On the following day Master Sybert was requested to undergo an examination at the hands of Rev. Moller, of Albany and Fred Seeger. The trial proved satisfactory and Master Sybert was accordingly suffered to open the school.

"At a meeting called by the said trustees on November 2, 1779, to consider what should be done about a law-suit for fifty pounds, which one of the builders had brought against the building committee for money due and unpaid; it was found the Board was anxious to get rid of that, and some other debts amounting to some sixty odd pounds, so these men assumed an equal share of the indebtedness, and gave their individual bonds for the same; and here is a list of the trustees who each paid 6 pounds, 5 shillings and 4 pence: Michaed Kinzer, Jonathan Roland, John Sheibley, David Divenderfer, George Hildasas, Christopher Grosh, Samuel Ronck, James McConnall, John Luther, Fred Seeger.

"On November 2, 1789, it was ordered the costs for the law-suit should be paid, and a committee of two was appointed to wait upon the Law office, at Lancaster, and desire them in behalf of the public, to relinquish these several demands or fees in favor of the school house. And

the same being so represented, Mr. Yates, attorney for plaintiff wrote the following lines to the Prothonetary of said county:

" 'Please end this action; It being a suit brought on account of a public school, I charge no fees.

" 'Nov., 1789 " 'J. Yates.'

"To John Hubley, Esq.'

" 'Nor do I, J. Hubley Proth.'

"And James Ross, High Sheriff of said county was pleased to relinquish his fees by word of mouth to the said Dr. Luther and Mr. McConnall.

" 'John W. Kittera, Esq., our attorney defended this action gratis; and thus ended this action without any charges wherefore the trustees do hereby give their thanks to these generous gentlemen.'

In December, 1798, another subscription paper was passed around. At the same meeting it was resolved that a 'standing committee shall be appointed to visit on every Monday, in the morning, the schools, and see how, and in what manner the schools are carried on, and what orders are observed by the masters and scholars.'

"At this point there is an omission in the minutes; none being recorded between the date given, December 1, 1798, and March 8, 1817.

"On April 1, 1817, John McClellan was teacher.

"In the following April, Jonas Witmer applied for the position of master, and after due examination, was accepted as such.

"On November 18, 1820, the trustees agreed 'that Alexander McPherson, may move his school to the public school house, and to the room appropriated for English tuition, and there to officiate and teach upon the same terms and for the same compensation he has already engaged to perform with his present subscribers and employers.'

" 'And the said master, Alexander McPherson, does hereby agree, and engage to accept the said charge and appointment, and agrees to comply with the original rules of the school house, and such other necessary rules as may be declared for the trustees to prescribe.

" 'That the hours for teaching be in the morning, from eight o'clock to half after eleven; and in the afternoon from half after one o'clock to five in the evening, in the summer season, and in the winter season, the usual hours.

" 'That the master be requested to see that the fire be made every morning in the stove, and on leaving to see that it is well secured; and to prevent accidents by fire; and that

he be also requested to see the pipes are properly cleaned from time to time as may be necessary.'

"The records are again missing from between March 4, 1823, to October 1, 1823. On the latter date the subscribers and their descendents met and decided to reduce the number of trustees from thirteen to nine, and that five shall constitute a quorum; the original Fundamental rules were, however, left operative.

"From October 16, 1825, to February 13, 1936, is a silence or omission in the minutes without any explanation.

"At the latter date fresh life seems to have been infused into the school management; some trouble seems to have arisen from allowing meetings and exhibitions of a secular character in the school house by persons, other than the trustees, and it was decided that thereafter only the trustees should give such permission.

"On February 15, 1836, a meeting of the Board was held, when Henry Roland was elected president, Michael Diffenderfer treasurer and Samuel Ringwalt secretary. At the same time it was resolved that the Lutheran, Reformed, Presbyterian and Methodist congregations should be allowed to hold public worship in the school house, by the payment of fifty cents for every such meeting; the trustees to furnish the wood; and the meetings not to remain in session longer than 9:30 in the evening.

"A period of inactivity lasting until 1844, again appears. The school was kept up but no regular meetings of the trustees were held and no minutes were recorded.

"January 27, 1844, they met and went over the accounts of the intervening period which had been regularly kept during all that time.

"The treasurer paid over the balance in his hands and a new start was taken. Numerous business meetings were held during the ensuing six months.

"The free school system having become a fact in Pennsylvania, it was resolved July 2, 1844, to confer with the school directors of the Township in relation of the school house for common school purposes, to obtain of them, if possible, an appropriation for the purpose of repairing the rooms and purchasing desks. Also in relation to the teacher or teachers who should receive the station. It was found that the Board of Directors was willing to pay one dollar per month for each room occupied by them.

"The trustees continued to hold meetings with considerable regularity, during the next six years, but the minutes were taken up with their dealings with the renters,

who occupied that part of the house not allotted to school purposes, with matters of finances and repairs to the building.

"Early in 1850, a proposition was received from the school directors of Earl Township, to build a new school house for the use of the town and vicinity, to belong to the township for school purposes, and to be under the control and direction of the said directors, and through them under the general free school system, provided the trustees could and would sell or exchange the school house and land.

"On May 1, 1850, a meeting was called to consider the proposal. It was decided to let the matter rest for a time.

"In the following August a committee was appointed to consult with the Lutheran Church congregation on the subject; But no definite proposition could be obtained from them at that time.

"Negotiations were again opened with the Township school directors; A new committee was appointed to continue negotiations with the Church people; but this too came to naught; the congregation claiming half of the proceeds resulting from the sale of the property and half of the cash on hand.

"But the matter lagged; No arrangement could be made with the church about the division of the proceeds that might be realized from the sale of the property.

"Various propositions were made by both sides only to be rejected by the other.

"Finally a propostion was received from the church people, to the effect that the proceeds of the sale of the school house and lot of land belonging thereto, should be equally divided between the trustees and the Lutheran church, and the church should also be entitled to one-fourth of the money in the treasury of the trustees, $202.70, first deducting from such moneys all the costs and expenses incident to the sale and conveyance of these premises.

"The proposition was unanimously agreed to on the part of the trustees in this way and it was thought a conclusion was at last reached to a vexatious question.

"The property was offered at public sale January 15, 1853, and sold to John Styer, for $935. But fresh complications arose; A bill in equity was filed by a number of citizens against the trustees, by which they were enjoined from consummating the sale agreed upon.

"The cause was heard before Judge Henry G. Long, and

the former injunction against the act of the trustees was made perpetual.

"In April, 1857, two petitions were sent to the State Assembly; one was presented to the Senate, and the other to the House; These asked for the passage of an act enabling the trustees and the congregation to consummate the agreement which had already been made and entered into.

"The bill passed both houses and was approved by George Pollock on April 21, 1857. (Pamphlet Laws 1857, page 278.)

"At a joint meeting of the school trustees and the trustees of the Lutheran church, held May 23, 1857, it was resolved that the school house property, real estate, and furniture, as desks and benches should be sold at public sale June 20, 1857.

"At the said sale the property was sold to Daniel Richwine, for $1060, and on July 1, 1857, the deed was executed to him.

"It deserves to be mentioned that in the above transaction, that all of the Trustees were also members of the Lutheran church.

"By the action of the Legislature already spoken of, the school trustees were directed to invest the share in the proceeds continually until the proceeds shall amount in the whole amount to a principal sum of not less than one thousand dollars ($1,000) and thereafter the interest and the income of such principal sum, or so much thereof as the said trustees at the time being, or the majority of them, may think proper, shall from time to time be applied to and towards the establishment and maintenance of one or more public schools in said village of New Holland, to be operated in such a portion and period of every year, as the common schools may not be in operation in the said village; and under such rules and regulations as a majority of the trustees at the time order and direct.

"Under the law, the share of the proceeds recevied by the trustees, was put on interest, and by 1876, had increased by the annual accumulations to $2,100.

"Since that time until now (1898) the trustees have used the interest of this fund in opening a free school and employing two teachers for a period of two months every year, when the common school session closes in the spring.

"To this school only children between the ages of six and twelve years are admitted. In this way the good work wrought by our German fathers one hundred and twelve

"When I look back over this remarkable story and think of its intelligent conception, the liberal minded spirit in which it was carried forward amid a thousand trials and tribulations, our admiration and respect for these men of old knows no bounds. And yet these men have been reviled by grave historians through ignorance, it is true, as people who were ignorant, bigoted, boors, without refinement and indifferent to education and progress.

" 'By their fruits ye shall know them,' and with this I will leave their work to the judgment of future generations.

"I have spoken thus warmly and appreciatively of the school because:

"Do bin ich ganga in die Schul,
Wo ich nich war gans Kle;
Dort war dar meschter in seim Stuhl;
Dort war sei wip, un dort sei Ruhl;
Ich kan's noch alles seh."

Dr. Diffenderfer adds, "I thought a brief sketch of Frederick Seegar, Esq., who was one of the organizers of the school movement and who for nearly thirty years was the faithful secretary of the board of trustees, would be appropriate in this connection.

"Fortunately he left the material for a brief biography behind him in Germany, which is still in possession of one of his descendants.

"He was born January 16, 1750, in Deidlesheim, Palatinate. No expense was spared in his early education. He says, 'I was sent to a Latin School from my 6th to my 13th year that with this, and an acquaintance with other necessary branches of knowledge, I might better get along in the world. After my father found me qualified to renew baptismal covenant by a public confession of my faith I was confirmed in the 13th year of my age and received for the first time the Lords Supper. Soon after, I expressed my desire to learn the Maechanttile profession, to which my father gave his consent. I then served a four years apprenticeship in the city of Stutgart, with Mr. Behringer. After that I went to Heidleberg, where I was in the employ of John W. Goldman for two years. From thence I went to Manitz and entered the celebrated house of John G. Goutzinger.

" 'In order to learn more of the world and improve my fortunes, I resolved to travel to Holland, with the hope of finding employment in some large commercial house. My undertaking was unsuccessful and thus resulted in my coming to America; for as I saw no prospect of getting em-

ployment in Holland, and did not wish to return to my native land, the way to America was prepared.

" 'I crossed the ocean in the ship, Minerva, Capt. Arnold, and landed in Philadelphia, September 20, 1771. I had to content myself with the circumstances in which I then was, and with the ways of the country, which it is true were not very agreeable. I was under the necessity of hiring myself to Benjamin Davids, an innkeeper, for three years and nine months; My situation was unpleasant, for my employment did not correspond with that to which I had been accustomed from my youth in my fatherland.

" 'In the course of nine months my hard service ended, for with the aid of good friends, I found means in a becoming way to leave Mr. Davids for the employ of Messrs. Miles and Wister, where I remained three years and six months.'

"Mr. Seeger came to New Holland soon after the period with which he closes his sketch, and here became one of the wealthiest, most respected and most influential men in the eastern end of the county.

"He died March 15, 1835, at the age of 86 years."

Thus ends the history of the old school by Mr. Diffenderfer. The old building usually known as the "ark" was the home for several families for many years. The school rooms were used for religious, educational and social gatherings, rented from the owners for many years. It was finally demolished in the spring of 1879, to make room for horse sheds and stabling for the use of the New Holland House, which were erected the same year. They are still standing on the spot of the old educational shrine.

In the removing of the heavy timbers of this school, Benjamin McNeal, one of the workmen, an ex-soldier of the Civil War, lost his life on April 13, 1879.

THE NEW SCHOOL SYSTEM IN NEW HOLLAND

The length of the school term was automatically extended when the new school code was established. There was no further need of the money that was originally intended for that purpose, and in 1914 the entire amount was turned over to the New Holland Borough on a demand note (which now amounts to the sum of $2,600.00). This was used to finance a worthy proposition when the the new Borough School was built in 1924.

The School Board had no authority to re-install the old town clock on the modern building. This faithful friend



New Holland's New $100,000 School Building

had endeared itself to the residents of the borough during its fifty years' service, and the community in general voiced its disapproval against discarding this useful landmark. The old School Fund, started by the sturdy forefathers before the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, was utilized for this project. The old clock was rejuvenated, and re-installed in the beautiful tower of the present structure.

When the common school law went into effect in 1835, the old building was rented for several years. The school district could not purchase it, for the trustees had failed to meet an agreeable decision. Accordingly, on May 26, 1841, the school district through its board of six directors (Christian Johns, John Styer, Wendell Holl, John High and George Rutt) purchased from Hon. Anthony E. Roberts, one half an acre of land with a brick dwelling (which in the deed is called the Methodist Meeting House"). This building was enlarged, equipped and divided into four school rooms, and used for this purpose until January 28, 1875.

This Methodist Meeting House was used as the Town's High School Building for thirty-four years. It stood on the north side of East Main street, where Mrs. J. W. Showalter's double brick dwelling now is built. (The old Meeting House was torn down in April 1875.)

(In 1841, when this meeting house was purchased by the school district, East Earl Township was included with Earl Township John High and George Rutt, two of the directors were residents of the East Earl section. Earl and East Earl Townships were divided in August, 1851. The dividing line between the West Earl and Earl Townships was already made in August, 1828.)

The School Board of Earl Township erected a new school during the summer of 1874. It was a two-story, brick building with a belfry or clock tower, basement, four rooms and directors' room.

A fair was held at Witwer Hall during one entire week in January, 1875 for the purpose of raising money to purchase a large clock that was to be installed in the school tower. The proceeds from this bazaar amounted to $751.49. The clock was purchased and erected with this money, and that which was received by popular subscription. The townsmen serving on this committee were: George H. Ranck, Amos Rutter, Isaac Witwer, E. C. Diller, Christian Musser, J. A. Groff, J. K. Mentzer and George Roland.

A two-story addition (30x30 feet) was erected on the southeast corner of the building, fronting the Main street, in 1913. In 1923, preparations were made for the erection

of the present modern school building, which was finished in the spring of 1925. This fine structure has twelve rooms, a large auditorium, basement, numerous cloak and class rooms also a directors' room and supervisor's office. A two-acre playground was also added.

In January, 1875, when the school moved from the old Methodist church to the high school building, there were four teachers on the faculty: Hon. A. W. Snader, Principal; Mary E. Hoover; Christie E. Meiman and M. Jane Yundt.

On Monday, April 27, 1925, when the school took possession of the present building, there were thirteen teachers on the faculty in the following order: Supervising principal, Ivan P. Lowry, Miss Verna Angstadt, Miss Rosa M. Stauffer, Mrs. Lester Mathers, R. Lee Wilson, Miss Florence Hoak, Miss Helen Fenninger, Mrs. Anna S. Diller, Miss Mary Harsh, Miss Florence Myres, Miss Laura Coldren, Mrs. Irwin Weaver and Miss Maria Bender.

George McElroy and his sister Rebecca (who later became the wife of B. F. Hill) were the first teachers of whom we have any record under the common law. Mr. McElroy read law and was admitted to the Lancaster Bar in 1846. He later moved to York, where he became one of the foremost attorneys of that city. Mr. Hill, who came from New York, taught many years in Leacock township, as well as instructed the singing classes in a number of Lancaster County School houses. He moved to Illinois in 1873.

Another son of the town, who taught in the "Ark" and in the Methodist Meeting house, was Isaac Stager, son of "Squire" John Stager.

Clara Ellmaker and her brother Isaac Ellmaker were also teachers in town schools. They lived with their widowed mother in one of the first houses in the village, which stood just east of the Hiester Mansion. the site now occupied by the home of Mrs. Annie Showalter. Clara Ellmaker continued teaching for many years. Mr. Ellmaker became a lawyer at Lancaster in 1851, where he had a successful practice.

Charles Hill came from Maine in 1850 and taught the high school very successfully for several terms. He studied law and was admitted to the Lancaster Bar in 1854. He later moved to St. Louis, Mo.

Rev. Thomas C. Porter, a clergyman of the Reformed Church, taught the high school during 1849 and 1850.

Josiah Landis with the assistance of his wife, was principal of the school in 1853 and 1854. He later moved to Manheim where he conducted a flourishing drug store.

Mary Diffenderfer, who died in this borough in 1923 at the age of 94 years, the widow of Albert G. Sutton, was one of the primary teachers.

From the Lancaster Sunday News of March 13, 1927, part of an old report written at that time by Mr. Landis to Superintendent Burrowes, states, "that the primary department enrolled 55 pupils; the advanced department has an average attendance of 111; that Miss Lydia Owen is also an assistant in that part of the school.

"The total salary for all the teachers is $50 per month, of which Miss Owen gets $10, Miss Ellmaker and Miss Diffenderfereach get $11. Mr. and Mrs. Landis received the balance, or $18.00 per month."

Charles Denues, of Lancaster, taught for some years in Earl Township, and also in New Holland for several terms beginning in 1854. He was admitted to the Lancaster Bar while teaching in 1845. He served one year in the Civil War as Captain of Co. E., 135th Reg. P. V., and was a member of State Legislature in 1865.

During the "fifties" Elias Groff and John H. Hull were teachers in the New Holland school.

Adam Geist was principal of the school several terms during the "sixties." Hon. A. W. Snader also taught here one or two terms.

Hon. George H. Ranck, later editor of the Clarion and a member of the State Legislature, was head of the schools in 1868 and 1869 with Emma Darrow, Mary Darrow and Christie Neiman, as assistants.

Miss Annie Ranck taught here early in the "seventies." D. S. Slouch was teacher in 1864 and 1865.

James M. Simpson, who died in Philadelphia in June 1874, had charge of New Holland High School for three years, 1870, 1871, 1872. He was a native of Strasbugr, this county.

The names of the men and women at the head of the school, conducted in the building that was the pride of the town for fifty years, were, in their order: A. W. Snader, Geo. W. Davidson, Thomas H. Patton, M. D. Mull, E. E. Wanner, Annie C. Brubaker, I. K. Witmer, J. L. Shroy, D. F. Detter, Jos. G. Strickler, B. W. Fisher, Martin E. Brenner, A. E. Brough, Geo. Z. Hunter, Alvin R. Wissler, Elmer Krabill, Emily C. Longenecker, Wm. H. Krill, who died October 12, 1916, after having had charge of the school one month; H. D. Pries and Ivan P. Lowry.

Those who did faithful service in the lower grades during those fifty years are: Mary Hoover, Cecelia Simpson, Chris-

tie Neiman, M. Jane Mentzer, A. R. Carpenter, D. B. Becker, Ada Hoover, D. W. Deitrich, Susie Mentzer, Annie Seigle, Milton Wenger, R. D. Yundt, Annie R. Barton, Mabel Diffenderfer, Chas. Metzgar, D. R. Brubaker, Paul Gerhard, Harry M. Good, M. B. Hutchinson, C. E. Lausch, R. N. Bowers, Lydia Yundt, Fannie Yundt, Hannah Kieffer, Elva Bair, Florence Stauffer, M. Adelia Hostetter, Mary F. Weaver, Arabella Shetter, Estella Bradley, Pauline Erisman, Elsie Fenninger, Mrs. Anna Diller, Gertrude Schmohl, Marie Smith, Helen Fenninger, Mrs. Kraybill, Wilhelmina Worner, Rebecca Stauffer, Maria Bender, Florence Whitecamp, Helena Weaver, Florence Hoak, Laura Coldren, Mary F. Pries.

Thirty of these teachers were either graduates of the local schools or the product of the common schools in Earl Township.

Free text books and stationery were first furnished by the school districts in the fall of 1893. The costly books caused the children of poor and indifferent parents, great difficulty in obtaining an education beyond the mere knowledge of how to read and write.

My respect and reverence for those patient teachers increases, when my memory steals back sixty years to the scene in the Conestoga School, in Earl Township. I remember that the variety and the scarcity of the text books was a condition that existed in nearly all the common country schools of that time.

W. W. Davis in the Clarion of January 22, 1910 says, "During the 'forties,' a select school was conducted in the town with Edward Swinny teacher, assisted by his wife; one boy's tuition for three months was two dollars. The wages for an able teacher at that time was about $12 per month. Jacob Souders, a learned man, usually examined the teacher applicants for the village school during that period. The fitness or failure to come up to the standard requirment, depended altogether on his findings. At one time the trustees insisted that he himself should occupy the position. He accepted for several terms, but soon turned the work over to some one else."

From the advertisement columns of the "Anti-Masonic Herald" of September 12, 1828, we copy the following:

"WANTED in the village of New Holland, a person capable of teaching a good English school. One qualified to teach the higher branches of mathematics, geography, and English grammar would be preferred.

"None need apply who cannot give satisfactory testimonials of capacity and character.

"Trustees of the New Holland School"

From the same publication of October 7, 1828, is taken:

"TEACHER WANTED---A person capable of teaching a good English and German school, apply two miles west of New Holland, near the Mennonite Meeting House,

"to David Grove
Isaac Grove

Another notice appeared in the same paper a month later:

"A teacher wanted, capable to teaching a good English school at the school house near the residence of Isaac Diller, Sr., about one mile south of the village of New Holland.

"Apply to Isaac Diller, Sr."

Hon. Anthony E. Roberts built the large brick residence now occupied by Postmaster Isaac H. Snader, and the American Legion. This was one of the "wonders" and the largest dwelling in eastern Lancaster county at that time. No one knew his reason for erec ting this huge building with its spacious rooms until it was finished in 1850. He then announced that a select school would be opened in part of his residence. Prof. Avery and his wife, both of whom were noted educators of New England, were the instructors and managers of the school.

This new venture was hailed with delight, and the strange English teachers soon enrolled a number of scholars. This school was patronized by people of the best families of the community. The Wallaces, the Yundts, the Galts of East Earl, helped to swell the ranks of students. Some of the best men of the community regarded their days spent in this select school, as a period of great value and inspiration. The financial end of the undertaking did not warrant its continuation, and the high school of the township again offered the only advanced educational facilities of the town.

The most successful select school in New Holland, was the one conducted by Miss Annie C. Brubaker. This private school was held for many years in the "Town Hall" (as it was long called, being the second floor of the Diller Hardware Store on the northeast corner of North Railroad avenue). It was moved in May 1874, to Miss Brubaker's own three-story brick building on East Main street (now occupied by the writer). The entire second floor of her property was divided into study and recitation rooms. The school flourished until the addition of the free summer terms established by the "Old School House Funds," naturally caused a decline of attendance in all of the other summer schools.

The kind words of grateful remembrance, expressed by men and women of influence in this and other communities today, is evidence that Miss Brubaker's institution fulfilled an important place in the life of New Holland.

There were several sessions of summer schools in this town to prepare teachers for their annual examinations. These were well patronized, but were never organized into any permanent school.

Postoffices and Post Roads

The Railroad and Trolley

The First Telephone



The Former Cyrus Mentzer Home—New Holland's Postoffice for Two Terms

POSTOFFICE, POST ROADS AND STAGE COACHES

The methods used in sending the mail were very unreliable and inconvenient before the establishing of post roads and post offices. In those days, the business people depended upon trusty friends and traders for the safe delivery of letters. The farmers living on plantations, situated away from the main roads and bridle paths, often received no news from the outside world for a long period of time.

The United States government first located a post office in New Holland during the beginning of Jefferson's administration, in 1802. This was the first post office in eastern Lancaster County; antidating Churchtown for six years and Blue Ball by fourteen years. The opening of a post office was hailed as one of the greatest conveniences thus far experienced by the rural inhabitants of this new country. This assurance of safe and easy communication far surpassed the mail service of their former European homes.

John Roland, a son of the first Jonathan Roland, was appointed the first postmaster. The original post office was situated on the business block near its present location.

John Roland died at Philadelphia in 1843, where he had become a prosperous merchant. At the time of his death, he owned a large farm north of the town, which was a part of the original Diffenderfer tract.

The succeeding postmasters of New Holland were, in turn: John Roland, July 1, 1802; Philip Hertshire, July 1, 1803; George Thompson, April 1, 1806; Samuel Holl, April 1, 1811; Samuel Diller, April 1, 1817; Henry Roland, April 17, 1818; Hamilton Ayars, May 27, 1845; George W. Smith, Dec. 7, 1848; Peter Ream, Aug. 27, 1853; W. Seeger Darrow, Aug. 19, 1858; Peter Ream, Sept. 30, 1858; George W. Smith, Mar. 8, 1861; George H. Townsley, June 29, 1885; David F. Besore, Dec. 16, 1885; Israel Bair, July 24, 1889; David F. Besore, July 20, 1893; George H. Ranck, July 10, 1897; John Roland, April 27, 1904; Eli Hess, June 20, 1916 and Isaac H. Snader, the present postmaster, who was appointed Sept. 24, 1921.

George Thompson came to New Holland from Salisbury Township. He was Justice of the Peace and had the post office in the log and frame dwelling, that was long occupied by Cyrus Mentzer's shoemaker shop (now the vacant lot of the Wright Bakery). When Samuel Holl succeeded him as

postmaster, Thompson sold the house to Wendle Holl and the office remained in the same place during Holl's term.

It is not definitely known where the post office was conducted during the year of Samuel Diller's appointment, (likely in the corner west of the Hinkletown Lane).

Henry Roland, the sixth postmaster was a brother of John Roland, who first held that honor. It is traditionally understood that he moved the office to the stone building, now known as the fruit store, west of the Eagle Hotel. Although politically opposed to the Ellmakers and the Hiesters, he held the office during the terms of Monroe, Quincy Adams, Jackson, VanBuren, Harrison and Tyler.

After James K. Polk was elected president, Hamilton Ayars was appointed postmaster. He had his shop on the same site where the double brick dwelling of Eli and W. W. Stauffer now stands, and where the famous John Esterly, clockmaker, had spent his last days. The post office was moved to Ayars' shop and remained there for over three years. George W. Smith brought the office to the business section again, when he was postmaster, where it was situated for years. Peter Ream, a tin and copper smith, who had his shops and extensive business on the same lot now occupied by the Kilhefner dining rooms, succeeded Smith as postmaster. He conducted the office in connection with his work for eight years. George W. Smith was re-appointed and brought the office back to its old quarters in 1861.

During the twenty-nine years of Mr. Smith's term, the office was kept in the Diller building now occupied by E. S. Renninger.

During September 1858, W. Seeger Darrow, acted as postmaster. He supported Buchanan and made many stump speeches for his election in 1856. Darrow died in 1860.

The appointment of George H. Townsley, brought the office into his jewelry store in the Witwer building (the present location).

The Churchtown post office was opened on April 1, 1808 by the appointment of Edward Davis. The first post office at Blue Ball was opened by John Wallace, under the name of "Earl."

The Free Rural delivery of mails from this office was started when Hon. George H. Ranck was postmaster, on November 4, 1902.

George W. Bair, Rufus C. Himes, Eli M. Martin and John B. Thomas were the first carriers for Route Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4, respectively.

These carriers served a population of 2725 people living in

545 homes. They traveled ninety miles daily and covered twenty-seven square miles of country. Each outfit consisted of several horses and a mail carriage.

The districts have since been re-routed and the rural population is now served by three carriers with automobiles.

The town "free delivery" was inaugurated here under the supervision of postmaster Eli Hess, on January 16, 1920. Darius Good was appointed as temporary carrier, but has been retained in this capacity ever since. He and his assistant, George Dissinger, serve the New Holland families twice daily with mail of many descriptions.

It is not known how the first mail was carried to and from this place in 1802. Judging by the road and mail facilities in other parts of the country of which we have record, it would be safe to guess that it was carried several times a week on horseback, in a pair of saddle bags.

The earliest authentic statement of this departure, that is at hand, is copied from the "Anti-Masonic Herald" of March 6, 1828 (twenty-six years after the office was established, and fourteen years after the Lancaster and New Holland Turnpike was completed, and ten years after the Blue Ball and Morgantown Pike was opened for travel).

"In consequence of the almost impassable state of the roads in many places, our subscribers have not received their papers regularly. The mails instead of arriving and departing as heretofore, at stated periods, arrive and depart in some instances at such times as circumstances render necessary, or as the contractor thinks proper to designate. Accordingly on this route they are entirely changed, and we now have mail from Lancaster on Monday and Thursday, instead of Monday, Wednesday and Friday, as heretofore.

"This difficulty, we understand, will be remedied as soon as the roads improve."

Another advertisement of July 4, 1828, in the same paper:

"Henry Roland, P. M., at New Hollad, served by stage running through, between Philadelphia and Lancaster, by way of Gulf Mills, Reeseville, Valley Forge, Moore Hall, Phoenixville, Kimberton, Yellow Springs, Morgantown, Churchtown, Blue Ball;

"Leaving 244 Market Street, Philadelphia, every third, fifth and seventh days of the week, at 4:00 o'clock a. m.

"Run through in one day.

"Returning, leave Lancaster, (William Cooper's Red Lion Hotel, West King street) every second, fourth and sixth days of the week, at 4:00 o'clock a. m., and arriving at Philadelphia on the evening of the same day.

"The whole route is run with four-horse teams.

"Fares, $4.00; way passengers, six cents a mile; all baggage at the owner's risk."

The same staging company advertises that passengers wishing to go to Harrisburg, will start at Lancaster in the morning at 4:00 o'clock, breakfast at Greenawalts, at Elizabethtown, and reach Harrisburg, at eleven, a. m., and that the fare is $2.

Five changes of horses between Philadelphia and Harrisburg.

We learn from an account of the May 28, 1830 publication that the stages were not always safe convenances, even in Lancaster county. It contains an account of one of the Lancaster stages loaded with thirteen passengers, being overturned at Fahnstock's tavern, twenty-one miles from Philadelphia. Mr. McClure and his daughter from Carlisle, were seriously hurt, and others considerably bruised. After the stage was righted, the uninjured passengers took their seats and proceeded to the city. The accident happened when a Conestoga wagon loaded with iron, kept the middle of the road, and the driver in trying to pass, went over the bank. No blame was attributed to the driver of the stage; but rather the teamster, who cared little for the safety of the lighter vehicle.

Every generation has its own traffic troubles. The rules must be regulated accordinly for the highways and vehicles used thereon, for the saftey of travelers.

The dangerous, yet often welcome summer roads are hardly remembered by the present users of them. The law of course, as well as courtesy accorded them to the traveler's right; but the rule was violated and some of the results are well remembered by the older inhabitants of the community.

The grand old pike was the boon of trade, pleasure and commerce. It extended through this town, with splendid summer roads to the east and west. These were the scenes of many unaccounted races between the people living in and out of the town, who were lovers of good horses.

The stages of this line, were fully up to the standard of those in other parts of the country at that time. This is proven by the notices and accounts of the same kind of travel all over the country.

The boot of the stage, with its large oilcloth blanket and flat top, was filled with all matter of merchandise for delivery to shops, stores, mills, housewives and farms, along the line.

Lancaster was the nearest banking place, and these faithful drivers were intrusted with large sums of money for deposit, for the payment of notes and bills in the city. One of the drivers is remembered as wearing a high crowned hat, in which he carried all the money and banking values committed to him. It is said, that he never failed to attend to the different business with which he was intrusted. He never took any notes or memoranda of them, saying, that they were as close to his head as they can be safely placed.

Stage-coaches, mailing facilities and the Conestoga wagons, which served the heavy transportation for the farms and the merchants in the Earls, were practically unchanged before 1861. In this year the P. R. R. Co. built an extension to Honey Brook, and the freight wagon traffic was directed to Lancaster and Reading.

The mail or stage route east from this place, was discontinued when the Honey Brook branch was extended to New Holland in 1876.

The railroad had been completed from this town to Lancaster in the fall of 1890, but the stage continued a year longer until the post offices along the route could be fully supplied by other means. The last trip was made on December 18, 1891, with William Stansbury as driver.

The stage, a time-honored and necessary institution for the life and development of the country, had outlived its usefulness. However, the rumbling of the old coach as it clattered over the pike twice a day, on almost scheduled time, was greatly missed by the residents along the way.

In the days before 1876, the stage for Lancaster (then operated by E. D. Kutz) waited for the stage to arrive from Churchtown, Goodville, and Blue Ball. It was scheduled to start on the Lancaster trip, every morning at 6:30, from Smith and Sutton's Hardware store, where G. W. Smith, the local postmaster, conducted the office. The stage stopped for the exchange of mail at Bareville, Midway (now Leola), Leacock, Binkley's Bridge, and Eden, arriving in Lancaster at 9:30.

Returning, it left Lancaster at 2:30 P. M., stopped at all the post offices and many other places and arrived at New Holland about 5:30. The Churchtown Route, under the same contract but operated often by some sub-contractor, delivered the mails to Blue Ball, Goodville and Churchtown.

There were mail routes at several periods, extending north and south. Reading was at one time the northern

terminus; and at another time Hinkletown, Martindale, Terre Hill. Bird-in-Hand was the southern terminal for many years.

The P. R. R. Co. carried and delivered the mails to this place for eighteen years. The last change was made on January 25, 1909. On this day, the mails were carried for the first time by the Conestoga Traction Company, between this and all the other post offices along the line.

On Monday morning, October 23, 1876, the first train left New Holland over the new East Brandywine and Waynesburg Branch of the P. R. R. It was made up of two engines and nine coaches, and carried 713 people on board who were out for a double purpose: to take a first ride over the new railroad and to visit the Centennial at Philadelphia. The business house of the town were closed to celebrate the event. The New Holland Brass Band, then one of the finest musical organizations in the county, accompanied the excursion.

The opening of this railroad connected the heart of the Earls with the outside world, and caused developments and expansions which were welcomed by the good people of the town in their order of growth. Regular train service eastward was opened early in 1877. Fourteen years later, in 1890, the railroad was constructed westward to Lancaster. Train service, with connections to all points from Lancaster eastward to Philadelphia, were brought to the people of this town and Chester Valley.

TROLLEY CARS COME TO NEW HOLLAND

On June 21, 1901, the Conestoga Tracton Company ran its first passenger cars into the western end of the town. A regular schedule was established on August 10, of the same year. The tracks were laid to a place opposite the office of A. W. Snader, Esq. (now opposite the Clarion office) and opened a passenger service of every two hours to Lancaster.

Owing to some contention, as to the location of the center line of the street, the cars did not run through the entire length of the town until July 15, 1903.

EXTENDED TO BLUE BALL

The tracks were laid, and the passenger services was opened to Blue Ball, early in July, 1904. The event was celebrated on July 21, 1904, with the holding of an extra large livestock sale by George K. Diller at that place. Sev-

eral thousand people attended this event. Music was furnished by an orchestra and refreshments were served. Flags and bunting were waving and many fine livestock exhibits were to be seen on this gala day.

ON TO TERRE HILL

After the lapse of another year, the trolley tracks were laid through the meadows and fertile fields from Blue Ball to Terre Hill. The cars with regular passenger service and freight traffic, was opened to that place on September 30, 1905. This event was celebrated by a day of rejoicing at Terre Hill and Blue Ball, on October 12, 1905.

FIRST TELEPHONES

The first telephone ever in use in New Holland, was one made in February 1881, by Reese Bailey. He was a brakeman on the New Holland Branch with considerable knowledge of telegraphy. The telephone lines connected the Railroad Station (which was then Rutter's warehouse) with the store of Rutter and Bair. The experiment was a great success and the talk of the community and town.

During the last week of March in the same year, Mr. Bailey used the telegraph poles along the railroad line, and connected the local depot with East Earl Station, which was then in the warehouse of George A. Wallace.

The Sensenig Hardware Company, at Goodville, then built a line from East Earl to their store. These three villages, New Holland, East Earl and Goodville, in this manner, had the convenience of the telephone before the great inventions reached them from the outside world.

January 1, 1884, New Holland was first connected with Lancaster and all the towns and boroughs west and north of this place, by telephone. The January 5, 1844 issue of the Clarion, devotes a column to the great achievement and convenience. The Brass Band assisted in celebrating the event.

An exchange with several operators has been maintained here ever since. The company under the name of the "Enterprise Telephone Company," has its main office in their three-story brick building, situated in the center of town, with a large garage, workshop and one acre of ground for their operations in the rear.

Connections with Terre Hill were not made until March 23, 1890. The Bell Telephone lines in this section were taken over by the Enterprise Company on July 1, 1925.



A Typical Farm House of the Early Days

Incorporation of Borough

Old Pumps, Water Company

Fire Company, Electric Lights



Looking East on Main Street, New Holland

INCORPORATION

The first public meeting to promote the idea of incorporating the town into a borough, was held in Witwer Hall, on Monday evening, October 7, 1878 (three years after the railroad reached here). George H. Ranck, A. W. Snader, E. G. Groff, Henry A. Roland, Samuel Davis, T. M. Storb, Isaac Witwer, Isaac Holl, Amos Rutter, Rev. D. W. Gerhard and Rev. J. W. Hassler discussed the possibility of the movement which seemed to lack general support at that time.

During the early "nineties" the matter was again discussed, and on Saturday, April 20, 1895, New Holland became a Borough (by proceeding in the Quarter sessions Court at Lancaster), one-half mile wide, and one and three-quarter miles long, having 260 male voters and a population of 1200 people.

The first election for Borough officers was held May 25, 1895. The following offiecrs were elected:

Burgess—George H. Ranck.

Council—E. L. Roseboro, R. S. Brubaker, E. C. Diller, Milton Wenger, Simon H. Mentzer and Elias Groff.

School Directors—A. W. Snader, J. H. Weaver, Geo. O. Roland, James F. Kelley, Isaac R. Kochel and Rev. F. F. Buermyer.

Assessor—Henry Nagle.

Constable—George Sprecher.

Justice of the Peace—Christian B. Pleams.

Tax Collector—H. J. Besore.

Auditors—W. W. Kinzer, Henry J. Besore and James A. Diller.

Judge of Elections—Ed .L. Sutton.

Inspectors—Ivan D. Bair and Jacob P. Lafferty.

The voters and election officers of the township were quite surprised when the Republican Primary County election was held, soon after the Borough incorporation. It was found that the township could not hold their election within the Borough limits. A section of Martin H. Mellinger's dwelling was procured for their election, while the voters in the Borough cast their ballot at their accustomed

place at the New Holland House. The election booth was erected later along the State Highway, where the township voters meet twice a year.

For many years after the failure of the U. S. Bank in 1837, there were few improvements noticed in New Holland. W. W. Davis is responsible for the statement, that there were only two new buildings erected here in the following twenty years. The transition from the original farming and gardening comunity to an active manufacturing commercial center, was accomplished slowly; but the town progressed rapidly with the advent of the railroad, and incorporation of the Borough.

Among the men who never cared for public office, but who put forth every effort known to them to bring about such vital improvements for the town, was T. M. Storb. He came to this town with his father in 1854, at the age of 19. Shortly after his arrival here, he began the trade of cutting and setting up tombstones. The work was carried on in a small building belonging to the Red Lion Hotel Property(at the intersection of Diller avenue and Main street). He later moved his business to the present location, where his sons now conduct one of the widest known marble works in the county.

His first slogan for the community was "A Railroad", and next "Incorporation of the Town".

All of his time not needed in his private business, was directed to the extension of the railroad to this place. He, and many of his friends and ardent supporters in the work, were greatly elated when it became a reality in 1876, and finished in 1890.

Mr. Storb acted as mediator and adjusting agent, between the railroad company and the many property owners with whom they had to deal. He was thoroughly conversant with all their affairs between Lancaster and Downingtown. He died on March 8, 1915, at his home on Wset Main street.

Edwin C. Diller was another of these unselfish men who were interested in the development fo the town. He was connected for 65 years with the oldest general store in New Holland, first as clerk, then as junior member, later a partner and finally a senior member of Diller and Son's Store.

His father, Amos Diller, was also long connected with this place of business, which was the "Wannamaker Store of the Eastern Lancaster County" before 1800. It was built by William Lightner (or his father) before 1795. The

hotel adjoining the store, extending to the Hinkletown lane, was also erected at this time.

Mr. Diller never aspired for public office, but served as Jury Commissioner and was a member of the Board of Viewers for the county many years.

He was a staunch advocate, for the incorporation of the town, for a railroad and for a National Bank, before other men in the community believed that such ventures could be made profitable. He died August 2, 1924.

OLD PUMPS

The water supply of the community was obtained for many years, from the wells and pumps which were maintained along Main street since the earliest days of the settlement. They were used by the residents living near them, with common rights and privileges for the respective families, as stipulated in the several deeds conveying their homes to them.

These large wooden pumps with their iron handles are remembered by some of our oldest inhabitants. Almost all of the wells are arched over, some are under the sidewalk at several places in the Borough.

In addition to the family pumps, there was one at every hotel, and at several other public places. These were for the convenience of travelers and for the Conestoga teams. They were situated at the edge of the street with huge watering troughs, hollowed out of large, white oak logs.

The first one on East Main street, was at the property now owned by Mrs. Davis Leaman. It is in its original form and is the only one known to be still in use.

The next one stood on the south side of the street, on the present curb line in front of the Andrew Brand, or Capt. Smith, home. This furnished water for the public schools on the north side of the street.

The hat factories had wells and pumps on the rear of the premises.

The next pump of prominence stood on the north curb, in front of John M. Ranck's home. It supplied water for Emanuel Sailors' cabinet shops, and a smith shop on the south side of the street.

Another one stood at the head of Brickyard lane, in front of the present home of Mrs. H. C. W. Showalter. This pump was partly controlled by the owner of the Hiester property.

Lots No. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 had their joint wells in the rear. However, on the line between 7 and 8 (now separating Wright's store and the Farmers Bank) a pump stood in the front yard, beyond the present curb line.

One of the most prominent pumps was situated in front of the present post office, between the south rail of the trolley and the south curb line. At that time it stood in front of the great barn used by the business section and several hotels. After the Styer House was built this barn and pump, with several others in the rear of both premises, furnished water for that hotel and stables. The barn was removed with all its former surrounding when Eli Hess built the large brick store building now used by Trimmer.

Another pump stood on the curb line in front of the New Holland National Bank building, controlled by Peter Diller. He resided where the New Holland House now is situated between "Hinkletown Lane" and Dr. Becker's home (now the Clarion and Electric Shop lots). Later Diffenderfer and Darrow had their one time popular shoe-making shops near this old pump.

There was one near Becker's Harness Shop, that furnished a number of homes and the stables belonging to Carpenter's Hotel, situated on the north side of the street.

In front of the Telephone building, was the most famous pump of this community. It supplied several homes and the patronage of the Eagle Hotel, and its large trade of Conestoga teams. The heavy freight wagons stopped here, because of the level ground around its stables and barns.

In front of the Roberts building, now the home of the American Legion, there was a pump of more private character. The next one on the Goshen premises, furnished water for the pottery works on the present M. E. Church grounds. This, and the last named pump in front of the Roberts building, supplied "Jonestown".

Another pump, on the north curb in front H. K. Storb's home, was the water supply for several Roland families and other tenants for many years.

The most western community pump on the original Diffenderfer lot of New Design, was on the middle of the last lot, No. 25 (this was the last plot owned by his descendents). The pump stood on the dividing lines between Squire Elias Groff and Levi B. Weaver, just inside of the north side walk.

From tradition handed down from people who lived at that time, we know of the inconvenient method of obtaining water before the wells were dug. The only supply for the

inhabitants, was from the many springs on the Ringwalt farms (now on the premises of Spencer Musser and Harry L. Stauffer, east of the Borough limits). We are told that many a housewife took her weekly family wash to the meadows and woods on that farm. kindled a fire to heat the water from the springs, and brought her clothes home dry in the evening.

One of the many rills or echoes coming to the writer from the old town pump which stood in the business block, was an incident of the Civil War days. Many of the brave sons of this town were on the front fighting for the Union. One summer afternoon, the people were shocked by a man's voice in the street. He was shouting for the success of the Southern Confederacy. A number of citizens seized him. He was held under the spout of the pump and willing hands worked the handle until he begged for release, promising better behavior. After he was allowed his fredom he repeated the damaging shouts. He was caught again and the old trough was filled with water. He was bodily thrust in the overflowing receptacle and held there by strong arms. Had it not been for timely interference of cooler heads he would have been drowned. After his release, he was quite docile and left the town, never repeating his insults to the patriotic towns people.

WATER COMPANY

The necessity of better water facilities in the Borough urged the leading men to seek a source from which it could be obtained. They studied the lay of the entire country and the situation of springs. Preliminary levels were taken from several springs on the Welsh Mountains and they found that the location was over a hundred feet higher than the highest houses in the town. The men at the head of the project were T. M. Storb, E. C. Diller, Amos Rutter and A. W. Snader.

They bought 26 acres and 60 perches of land from William G. Schnupp, and the rights of way to lay pipes from the largest spring now owned by the present Water Company to the town. The rights and property were deeded to T. M. Storb. A careful and permanent survey was made of the proposed water line by J. Frank Brubaker, Esq. This proved that water could be conveyed from the mountain springs to the town by gravity and a company was formed. An application was made to the courts for a charter under which the company could operate. It was issued April 4, 1895.

The first directors, who served the company for many years, were T. M. Storb, A. W. Snader, Amos Rutter, R. H. Brubaker and R. J. McGrann.

H. K. Storb was elected secretary and treasurer of the company. He was also chosen as general manager, to supervise the laying of pipes and make the proper connections with the patrons of the new enterprise. After the work was completed, he was appointed superintendent of the company, which position he held until 1919.

The contract for laying the pipes was let to Edgar B. Kay. He began the work of digging the trench with seventy-five men, on Tuesday, May 28, 1895. The work was finished and the water was turned on at the Styer House, July 9. Connections were made at once with many homes and business places of the town. Only a few of the old pumps remain in the borough at the present time.

When it was fully demonstrated that the water plant was self-sustaining, a movement was started for the Borough to own and control the water system. The sale of the plant to the Borough was consumated in the early spring of 1919, and the sale fully confirmed July 1, 1919, by the State Public Service Commission.

The Borough paid $40,000 for the plant and issued bonds for this amount.

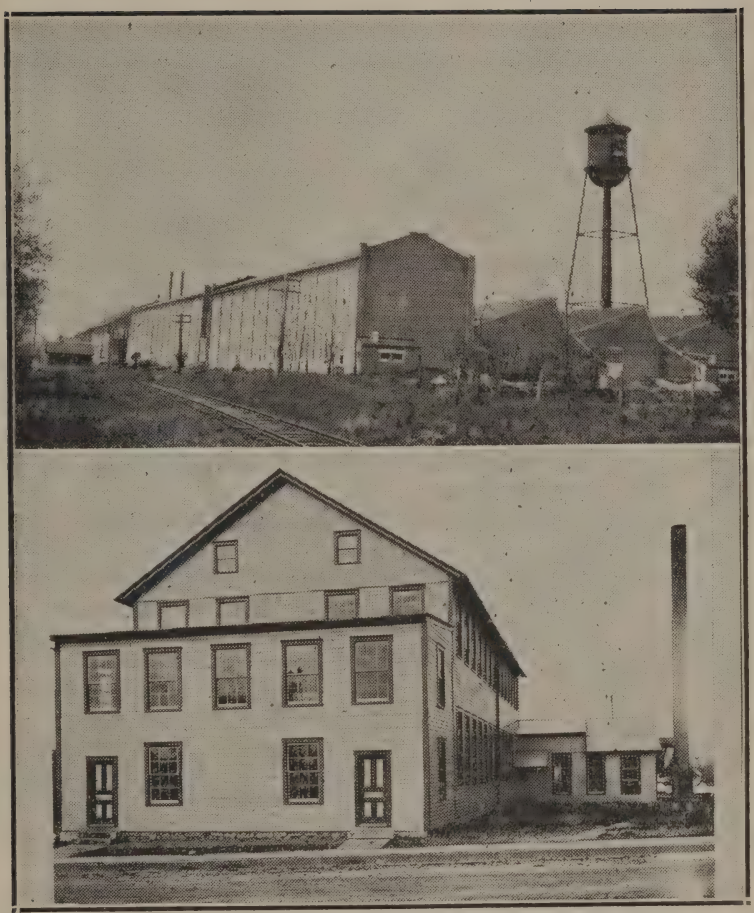
In 1921, the Borough connected other springs of a higher altitude to the first system. Under the management of C. R. Weaver, superintendent of the Water Department, pipes were laid through the mountain side to the new springs.

The additional flow of water has supplied the increasing demands caused by the many new buildings and consumers, and the water department is fast reducing its indebtedness.

John Overly has been caretaker of the springs and property since the Water Company's organization in 1895. He lives on the property owned by the water department, and keeps constant vigil against the contaminating surface waters, which might be caused by frost, floods or by designing and careless persons.

FIRE COMPANY

The beginning of the present Liberty Fire Company had its inception at several town meetings held in the hall of Diller's Hardware Store. The "Hook and Ladder Fire Company" was organized April 28, 1897, as a result. The following officers were elected: J. F. Seldomridge, president; I. M. Storb, Sr., vice president; Amos Diller, secretary; and George F. Besore, treasurer.



Upper, Part of the Storb, Snader & Co. Inc., Silk Mill
Lower, the Original Mill

Their outfit consisted of a four-wheel hose wagon, carrying two hundred feet of one inch hose and several extension ladders. The wagon was fitted with a short tongue and a long rope with attached rings, where willing hands could assist. The wagon was light and made to order by E. L. Roseboro and Sons.

The new equipment was first used when the burning of the large brick tobacco warehouse on Railroad avenue occurred on the night of December 9, 1897. It was instrumental in saving all the surrounding buildings, some of which were close to the blaze.

Other appliances were tried from time to time. The Borough purchased two Chemical Fire extinguishers, each loaded on a two wheeled hand car.t They were kept in different parts of the town. This apparatus was a great improvement to the old bucket brigade but was inadequate to cope with fires in large buildings.

The first movement for modern equipment, was made during 1918. The company is equipped with three powerful engines on speedy motor trucks (one chemical and two pumpers) including 3,500 feet of three-inch hose connections. One pumper throws 350 gallons of water per minute and the other a stream of 700 gallons per minute. They are stationed at the Town Hall ready for any emergency. The Liberty Fire Company is well organized with volunteer firemen who willingly respond to the call of the siren, day and night. They have accomplished admirable work, preventing thousands of dollars loss every year.

ELECTRIC LIGHTS

In the summer of 1904, the Borough council, with the business men of town decided to obtain electric service. They signed a contract with Michael M. Nolt to furnish the Borough streets, private homes and business places with electricity.

The plant was to be installed in Mr. Nolt's mill (the Galt Mill, better known as the Daniel Overholser Mill) on the Conestoga, three miles away.

Mr. Nolt at once engaged Noah N. Sauder and Martin G. Sauder, who were starting in the electrical business in the Borough, to erect the lines and install the machinery. The plant was in full operation before the end of the year.

The only serious misshap to the system during the ten years service occurred on May 8, 1908, when the plant was struck by lightning.

Mr. Nolt sold his outfit to the United Gas and Electric Co., July 8, 1914. The dynamos, engines and water wheels were removed from the historic mill. This was the most successful one-man enterprise in the development of the young borough. It was the foundation of our present first class lighting system.



Lehman's Green Grocery; Now the Stauffer Drug Store

Newspapers in New Holland

NEWSPAPERS IN NEW HOLLAND

On Friday, June 27, 1828, the first public newspaper was printed in New Holland, and issued under the name of "Anti-Masonic Herald". This publication was largely the product of the great political upheaval, which swept over the country when the old Federal party lost its identity. It was a four page journal, 14 by 22 inches, devoted to political discussions, advertisement, a few local gleanings and foreign news. It was published in the building remembered as Smith's Grocery store and Cigar factory, on East Main street, now owned by Storb, Snader and Company, Inc.

One of the editors was Dr. Thomas W. Veazey, son of Governor Veazey, of Maryland. He had previously located in New Holland for the practice of medciine, and had thrown his fortunes to that side of the political slate. The other editor was Theophilus Fenn, son of senator James Fenn, of Connecticut.

He came to Lancaster after finishing his education in the New England states in the fall of 1826. He met Nathaniel Ellmaker and others of his political faith, who induced the young man to came to New Holland and take up the work as editor of the new venture.

The paper had a large circulation and was published in this town until April 10, 1829. Mr. Fenn bought out the interest of Dr. Veazey and moved the printing equipment to Lancaster. Dr. Veazey evidently returned to Maryland.

Theophilus Fenn died in Perry county in 1883. It is learned from his obituary that he was a success in the field of journalism, and a factor in the political fields of the state. He was editor of Lancaster and Harrisburg papers.

In the editorial of the first issue of the paper, the purpose of its publication was outlined: namely, to annihilate all Masonic organizations in the country. Its pages show that they tried hard to accomplish that end, and also prove that the new party had many adherents in Lancaster County. Many of the followers of this movement became quite promient in the state and national affairs, long after their pet political party ideas had died out.

The advertising columns throw more light on the conditions of the life of the village and country, than their few references to local news.

In the Herald of April 10, 1828, appears the following advertisement:

SAMUEL DAVIS

Sheet Iron and Tin Plate Worker

"Respectively informs his friends and the public generally, that he has commenced the above business in the village of New Holland, one door west of Mrs. Diller's tavern, where he is now on hand, and intends to keep an assortment of ware manufactured in the most substantial manner and the best materials. Water spouts put up at the shortest notice, Stove Pipes and Drums, made to order.

"Storekeepers will be supplied at short notice upon fair terms. N. B., The highest price will be paid for old pewter and lead, etc."

The business mentioned in the above notice, was situated on the same spot now occupied by I. G. Davis' Sons' Store. This is one of the few examples in the Borough, where the present business, is located on the same site where it was originally started in the early days of the village.

Mr. Davis was a son of George Davis, of this place. He began his business, as stated in 1826. He remained here until 1834, when he and his family, with a colony on Conestoga Wagons, moved to Mifflintown. They returned to New Holland, in the same kind of conveyance in 1856, and bought the Eagle Hotel property (at that time the hotel barns and sheds for the Conestoga teams were on the south side of the street).

The wagoning and teaming being on the decline, he sold the hotel, removed the barns on the opposite side of the street and built the present three-sory brick dwelling (now the home of the Enterprise Telephone Company). He and his son Isaac G. Davis, conducted their tin-smith shop for many years in the basement of the new building.

Mr. Samuel Davis was the inventor of a fat lamp. It was constructed with a bowl for the lard and a center tube to hold a wick of canton flannel. (The hollow tube having an opening at the base). This was a great improvement over the former lamps and decidedly better than the tallow candle. His prospect for a large sale and afortune was spoiled by the coal-oil lamps which at that time (1856) came into use.

Mrs. Diller's Tavern, mentioned in the above notice, was at the same place now occupied by the New Holland House and Stauffer's Drug Store. She was a widow of Peter Dil-

ler, and the mother of Roland Diller, Esq.

From another advertisement, we find that Smith and Ream, had a copper and tinsmith shop at the Green Tree Hotel. They would take Copper, Pewter and old lead in exchange for new goods. They state, they are equipped to make new, or to repair "Stills and Worms". (The Green Tree Hotel was where Eli Hess' new dwelling is built and was one of the few hotels on the south side of the street).

There were two hat factories in 1828. One was operated two doors below the printing office, by Adam Miller. He states that he is at the old stand where his father made hats." His factory, the largest in the town, was situated in the present brick dwelling owned by Mrs. Maggie DeHaven. The other hat factory, was located where the home of Mrs. A. B. Groff now stands. It was operated by Samuel Zieber. Both of the proprietors sold wholesale or retail and offered liberal discounts to storekeepers. They were willing to take all kinds of furs and lamb's wool as a payment for their productions," which are equal to the finest head gear made anywhere."

David Shultz, who moved from this place to Lancaster in 1851, became the founder of the extensive Shultz Hat factory and stores on North Queen streets. He worked in the factories near the old printing office (Smith's store) for over twenty years. One of his assistants at the old place was William Barstler, who made the fine high, silk hats for a time during the "fifties," in the old Carpenter Hotel (now Doerr's Restaurant).

In his journal, John Esterle "a maker of Grand-father clocks," advertises "eight-day clocks with wild Cherry cases, for forty to fifty dollars a piece."

In his business card in the journal, he announces that "William M'Conaghy conducts a watch-making business in the same shop or dwelling."

Anthony Carpenter, son of Henry Carpenter, was another maker of grandfather clocks. He constructed the greater number of his clocks in the house known as Carpenter's Hotel. He died in the Squire Stager home (which would now be called a bungalow and stood where Mrs. Kohler's house was recently erected).

Anthony Carpenter's son, Anthony W. Carpenter, learned the trade of clock-making from his father. He became a successful jeweler at Burlington, Iowa. He later returned to New Holland and assisted his father in the business for a while. He lies buried in the Lutheran cemetery by the side of his parent.

Coach-making and manufacturing of all kinds of light vehicles was conducted on West Main street by E. and W. Kirkpatprick. Gigs and barouches were a specialty. The same shop was later used by Peter Ream, a copper and tinsmith where he conducted the post office when he was postmaster.

The journal contained numerous notices for the recovery of stray horses, cows, sheep and other livestock "left out for grazing, and having wondered away." Many farmers "having fed a red steer, a black cow, or several sheep for weeks without finding the owner," advertised that "the animals will be sold for the costs of feed and other incidentals, unless taken away by its owner."

The most astonishing notice which appears very frequently is the announcement of a reward "for the return of Run Away Indentured Servants." These were mostly white boys and girls, and sometimes older men and women, who were bound out to service for a stipulated number of years. Their keeper often made them work very hard and allowed them few comforts of life. The result was a frequent absconding without ceremony, and their master used the means of the law to bring them back, especially when the runaway took more along than really belonged to him.

A case of this kind appeared in a notice of the Herald of September 12, 1828:

"SIX CENTS REWARD. Left the subscriber on the night of the 7th inst. --- Mansfield Wallace --- An indented apprentice to the Hatting Business, about twenty years of age; near five feet eight inches high; stout built; red hair; blue eyes; a good deal pock marked; downcast look when spoken too. Said apprentice took away with him one blue coat, one blue mankin; round-about; one pair of blue and one pair of mixed cassinets; one pair of blue nankin pantoloons; two white and one striped Marseilles, and two blue casimere vests, with many other articles of clothing.

"Whoever takes up said runaway, and delivers him to the subscriber, shall have the above reward, but no charges.

"All master-hatters, and all masters of vessels and others are forbid of harboring or trusting said apprentice at their peril.

Samuel Zeiber"

The lowest noted rewards for such runaways, were for one cent; offered by Jacob Cambell, the manager of Spring Grove Forge, for the return of Jacob Yocum, an indented Forge apprentice; and another, by Wm. Conway, manager of Pool Forges, for the return of Jacob Foreman an indented

apprentice. The one left his place of employment on May 4th and the other of July 26, 1828.

The highest reward offered in the columns of the Herald was for five dollars. This was announced by George Shaffer, a farmer in Earl Township, for the return of an indented apprentice to the farming business, whose name was John Laub. This runaway had taken with him a blue coat and pantoloons, a brown coats and pantaloons, a Wilmington stripe round-about, three or four vests of different colors, eight shirts, four pairs of shoes, two hats, one thereof nearly new, the other half worn, four or five pair of woolen stockings, and other small articles of clothing. He was about eighteen years old, and a good description of him was given.

In addition to the stipulated price, Mr. Shaffer promised to pay all costs and charges, providing his apprentice was returned to him or lodged in jail. Whether the labor of this apprentice was worth more than many others, or whether the Earl Township farmer valued his extra clothing enough to make such an offer, is not stated. No announcement was found in the paper whether the owners were successful in having their servants returned to them. This information would be instructive and interesting, after knowing that rigorous measures were practiced.

On March 19, 1830, George Kunkle of Earl Township, advertises for the return of "Margaret Mays, a fifteen year old girl, of a dark complexion with dark hair and dark eyes, five feet tall."

She left the Kunkle home on Sunday, the 14th day of March, taking with her two new calico frocks, two new flannel and one cotton frocks, black silk handkerchiefs, four new shirts, a calico bonnet, four cotton handkerchiefs, with a variety of other clothing. A reward of six cents was offered for her return, and all warned not to befriend her.

The election returns were published in the October 31, 1828 issue of the paper. It reported the election of Jackson as President and Buchanan as Congressman, defeating Hiester. No comments were made thereon, except the determination to enlarge the party lines for future actions. Ths was accomplished two years later, when Hiester was first elected to Congress and continued for three terms.

In 1856, E. G. Groff, a school teacher, surveyor and scrivener, living in the brick dwelling now owned and occupied by Elias Groff, Esq., started a job printing office. This industry, after passing through several hands, was bought by Hon. George H. Ranck, at the close of his first term as a

teacher of the New Holland High School in 1869. His job work grew rapidly, and developed into the publishing of the "New Holland Clarion." The first publication was issued from the Witwer building January 18, 1873 by Mr. Ranck and J. W. Sandoe (of Waynesboro, Pa). Five years later Mr. Sandoe withdrew from this partnership and Mr. Ranck continued the publication. The paper was so successful that no review of community events, history of its people or developments of the industries, trade, commerce and social reforms, could be worked out today without referring to the Clarion files for reliable information.

The Clarion supported all the worthy developments and improvements in the town from its first publication until the present day.

Editor Ranck had an open forum, for judicious and helpful suggestions from interested and progressive citizens. He had a keen knowledge of what should be published and what must be withheld, encouraging reminiscent notes of the place, and above all, numerous, spicy and pointed editorials. He helped to obtain the railroad in 1876; encouraged by the Clarion, New Holland had the greatest Centennial Celebration of any county town. He saw the first National Bank in eastern Lancaster County, organized at New Holland in 1881; the railroad through to Lancaster in 1890; the town become incorporated into a Borough in 1895 (he was the first burgess); the silk mill, the largest industry of the town in 1896 and the New Holland Machine Company, another large industry, organized in 1896.

There were scores of other important lines and avenues developed in the growth of the borough and community that were encouraged and supported by this faithful public servant in this editorial capacity. He served as Justice of the Peace for five years, and was member of the State Legislature 1889-1890, and postmaster 1897 to 1904.

The Clarion was carried to non-resident subscribers by stage for four years. The news and market reports were all received the same way. The subscribers living in the town were served for many years by special carriers from the office.

On May 1, 1903, the Clarion and printing office was sold to C. R. Martin and H. A. Showalter. H. A. Showalter in August, 1904, assumed the editorial chair which he filled acceptably for nine years. In August, 1912, M. R. Lutz became the editorial manager and in 1915, Mr. Ranck, the first editor, who had been doing newspaper work in Everett and Altoona, returned to his former position and continued as

editor for seven years (when he returned to his home in Altoona). Harry E. Ressler, of Ephrata, succeeded Mr. Ranck as editor. Under his management, the publication is not only maintaining its progressive pace set by the former editors, but Mr. Ressler has placed the Clarion in the foremost ranks of rural journalism in the county and state.

C. R. Martin has been proprietor of the paper for over a quarter of a century.

ADVERTISEMENTS IN 'THE CLARION' 50 YEARS AGO

E. L. Roseboro---Buggies, Phaetons, Jenny Linds, Rockaways, Family Carriages. Sleighs of the latest styles.

Adam Keener---Steam Mill; Flour, Chop stuff, Mill Feed.

T. M. Storb---Monuments, gravestones at Marble Works.

Christian Freshmuth---Carpet Weaving, Table Linen, Bag Twill, Towels.

Dr. J. A. Groff---First Class Drug Store.

Dr. J. G. Moore---Dentistry.

A. W. Snader---Attorney-at-Law and surveyor.

I. O. Brunner---Lumber and Coal.

Cyrus Mentzer---Boot and Shoemaker.

Lancaster and New Holland Stage Line by E. D. Kutz.

Diller and Roland---Largest assortment; greatest variety of goods.

Eliza Styer---Millinery store at the Styer House and Alice and Laura Hoover, dressmakers in the same rooms with Miss Styer.

Mrs. M. A. Wiest---Just returned from the city and has on hand a large assortment of Millinery and Dress Goods at the Witwer building.

C. Culbertson---Undertaker, furniture and house furnishing man.

Mentzer & Dillman and Geo. W. Smith---Hardware Stores:

I. G. Davis and Henry Nagle---Tin and Copper smith establishments.

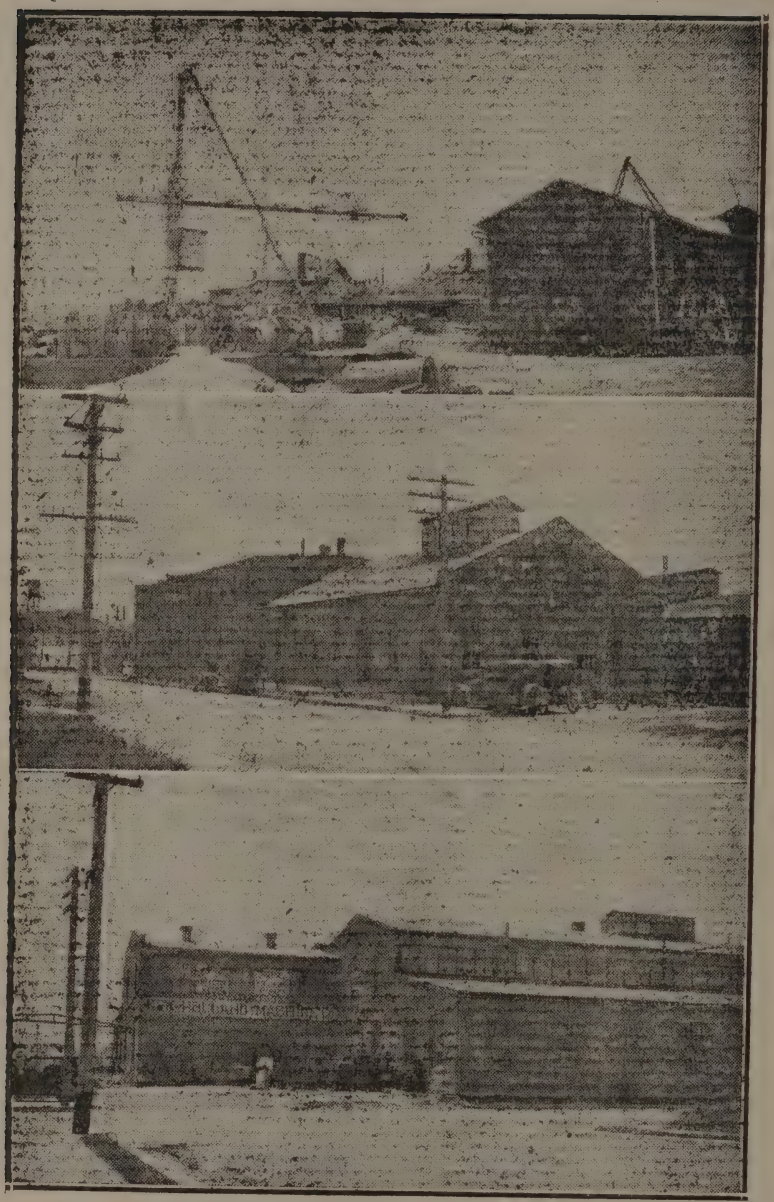
Jerome Wolfe---Sign and house painter, and grainer.

Gustavus Haage---Peach Bottom Slate and practical slate roofing.

Jacob Diffenderfer---Products of his green house at the corner of Main and Locust streets.

Isaac Witwer---Clock and musical instrument maker, at his building, with an assortment of his line of instruments on hand.

Industries



Upper Picture, the NewHolland Concrete Co. Plant.
Lower Pictures, the New Holland Machine Co. Plant.

HUMBLE BEGINNING OF THE NEW HOLLAND MACHINE SHOP

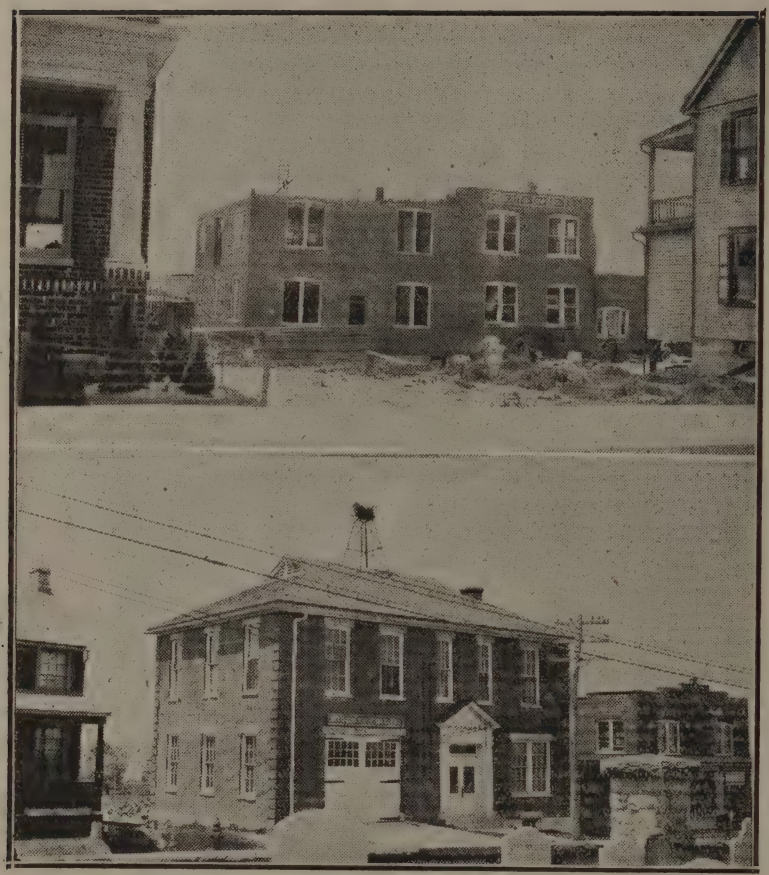
This company was founded in 1895, when A. M. Zimmerman, of Martindale, built a small frame shop on North Railroad Avenue, then called Luther. General repair work for the farmers and millers was conducted at the little shop, while Mr. Zimmerman experimented with new devices for gasoline engines and feed mills. His inventions were successful, and patents for a New Holland Gasoline Engine, and a New Holland Feed Mill were secured. Later, modern troughs, tanks, and finally stone crushers were made on an extensive scale.

A stock company was formed in 1903, with Mr. Zimmerman as president. A new site was selected on Franklin Street, along the railroad, and new buildings of brick and stone were erected; a machine shop 40 by 210 feet, and a foundry 40 by 40 feet. In 1912, another two-story brick building, 48 feet square, was erected and an addition to the foundry was built.

The company enjoyed phenomenal success until the World War closed some of the markets for their popular mills. Their largest production in any single year was 3,048 feed mills. These were sold in the United States, Canada and in foreign countries.

During the year 1910, their report published in the Clarion was: 2243 mills made and sold; 360 gasoline engines made and sold; 475 wood saws made and sold and 27 large stone crushers made and sold.

At that time the officials of the company were: Eli M. Martin, President; Weaver Musselman, Vice President; D. M. Wenger, Secretary; A. M. Zimmerman, General Manager, and E. L. Sutton.



Upper---New Addition to the Wright Bakery.

Lower---Borough Council Chamber and Fire Hall.

SILK MILL STARTED IN A SMALL WAY

The first movement for the manufacture of silk in this place, was the organization of a company by A. W. Snader, Amos Rutter, T. M. Storb and E. L. Roseboro in 1894. They procured the two story brick tobacco warehouse built by Diller and Sutton, where they installed fifty looms. A two-story frame building with basement, 50 by 114 feet was added in 1898, and fifty-eight additional looms were installed.

James A. Gilfillan, of Patterson, N. J., took charge of the mill in 1900, for the best interests of the stockholders. The plant was sold to a new company under the name of "Storb, Snader & Company," in 1904. This new firm was very successful. In 1907, another brick addition of 60 by 80 feet was made, giving space for 60 additional looms. Another brick addition 90 by 138 feet was built in 1909 to accommodate 72 more looms.

There was an increasing demand for the products of the mill and in 1910 more ground was bought on the east side of Brimmer Avenue. The two-story brick mill, 64 by 204 feet, with floor space enough for 120 looms was erected, 1914.

In 1919 another addition 186 by 224 feet was built, with floor space for 350 looms, which gave the mill suitable room to set in operation 710 looms. During the busy seasons there were nearly 500 looms in daily operation. During the year 1916, the Corporation erected a branch mill at Christiana, equipped with 110 looms and other machinery employed in the weaving of silk.

The corporation is at present employing more hands than any other firm in eastern Lancaster County.

THE WRIGHT BAKERY

The Clarion of April 8, 1882 announces that Mr. Wright moved to New Holland and is living in the Miss Annie C. Brubaker building, where he intends to establish an extensive bakery, and a first class restaurant and confectionery store. The Clarion's comment is: "It seems possible that there may be room for another home bakery."

The extensive bakery with all the modern equipment, is conducted at present in a two-story brick building, 88 by 94 feet with additions 60 by 60 (feet and 10 by 20 feet. The other large attachments and additions made during the last years, give evidence that there WAS room for another bakery in New Holland. The business was well established as a village bakery when Robert K. Wright, the founder, died in 1896. It was continued by the sons, R. Howard and F. Lacey

Wright, until 1912, when it was taken over by R. Howard Wright. F. Lacey Wright started a similar business at Hatboro, Pa.

Expansion was noticed in every part of the business at this time. Modern ovens, sanitary machinery and equipment were installed, the number of horses and teams were increased and trucks were used for the far routes. Wholesale business was started and stores were opened in different towns. In September, 1916, the entire plant, with the large dwelling, storehouse and barns, was destroyed, by one of the most disastrous fires in the history of the town. Mr. Wright at once began the erection of a large new plant on what seemed to be an elaborate scale, but which is rapidly proving inadequate for the fast-growing trade.

On January 24, 1919, when the proprietor met his death in a railroad accident, the bakery was second largest in the county. For the past ten years, the business has been conducted by Mrs. Flora Wright and her two sons Earl and Robert. They are continually adding to the capacity of their plant, installing modern machinery and extending the borders of their daily customers and avenues of trade.

Their latest addition is an automatic oven, which will be completed in the near future and which will more than double the daily output of their plant.

NEW HOLLAND ICE COMPANY

John M. Ranck, with his son--in-law Paul B. Hess, erected a large ice plant in the spring of 1918. It was a modern equipped refrigerator plant with a capacity of fifteen tons of ice per day.

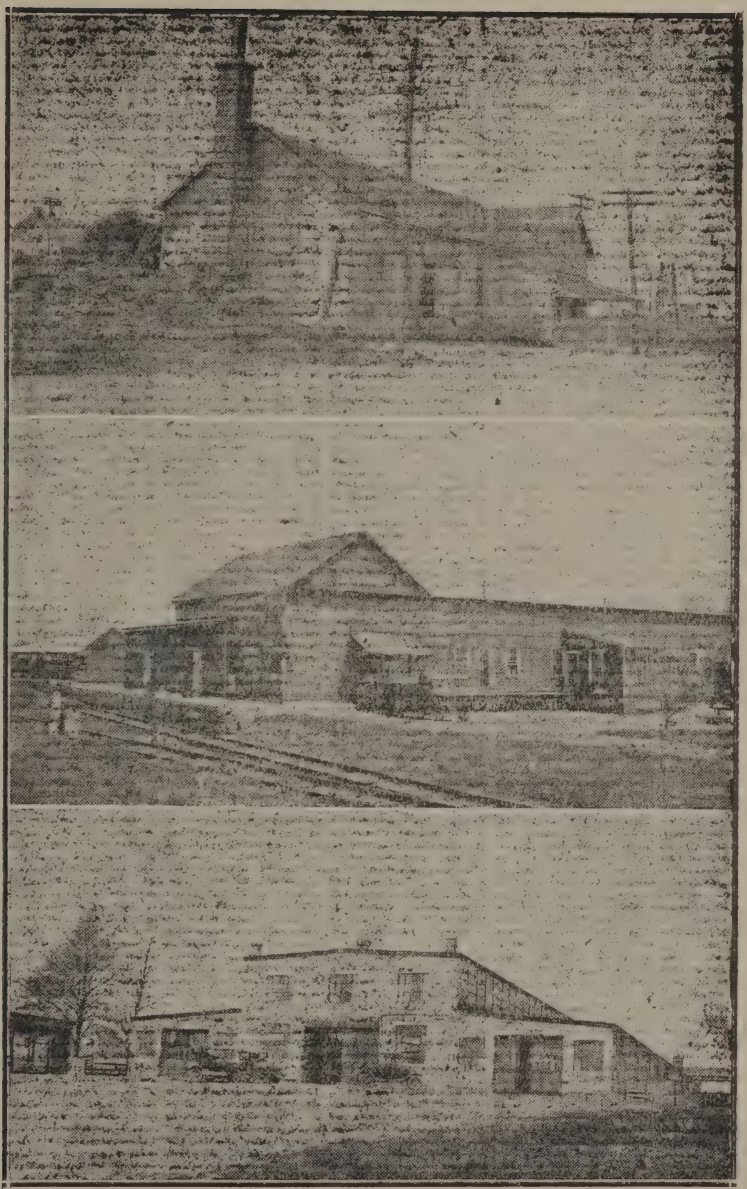
The pure Welsh Mountain Spring water is used in the making of the ice. The plant is now driven by fifty horse power electric motor and continues to be an industry of great convenience to the growing Borough and its inhabitants.

The Atlantic Ice Manufacturing Company is the present owner.

BRASS, BRONZE AND ALUMINUM COMPANY

A company to manufacture brass, bronze and aluminum fixtures, and articles and devices made of those metals, was organized April 1, 1920. A factory was built of concrete blocks along the railroad tracks, where an increasing amount of work is turned out under the direction of J. Morris Smith, president and general manager of the firm.

The company employs thirty hands.



Upper---Milk Station.
Center---The Ice Plant.
Lower---The Stauffer Sales Co. Barn.

PLANING MILL

The New Holland Planing Mill was started by Banzhoff, Weber, and Musser, on Prospect street, December 1, 1922. It is now conducted by John H. Musser, and has become a valuable place of business. It is of great convenience to the residents of the Borough in the erection of many new homes.

SAUDER BROTHERS

Noah N. Sauder and his brother, Martin G. Sauder, were amateur trouble men when the telephone was in its infancy. The former became line-chief of the telephone company. The latter was appointed superintendent of the Nolt Light plant, and of the installation of all necessary fixtures, equipments and appliances. All this had taken place before the end of 1904. The young men, by their succsesful experimental labors, had become the pioneer electricians of this growing community.

The first shop was erected in 1906, at the rear of their double brick dwelling on West Main street. They built motors, generators and private electric lighting plants for house, factory and farm use.

The first building of the present plant was erected in 1919, 30 by 50 feet; and another 20 by 60 feet, in 1920.

The Ford Agency and service station for eastern Lancaster County, was established in 1911. They are conducting that branch of work in conjunction with their original planned shop and trade.

The establishment of the John N. Sauder Auto Company grew from the Sauder Brothers' Firm. John Sauder, a younger brother, in partnership with Levi A. Weaver and J. R. Ernst, erected a large concret block shop and storage rooms opposite the other company in 1923. They conduct an electrical shop, garage, and have the agency of several motor cars, trucks and engines.

RYBACK AND GOOD'S GARAGE

In the summer of 1921, Alexander Ryback, a young mechanic, of Philadelphia, was sent to the farm of Charles S. Good, near the town, to repair a gasoline engine. The success of his mechanical work on the engine and other farm machinery, caused an intimacy to develop between him and Mr. Good.

This friendship later established the Ryback and Good garage, on Franklin street. Alexander Ryback was ap-

pointed manager and master mechanic of the new place of business, and has successfully continued in that capacity ever since.

DILLMAN—ROSEBORO—WRIGHT

(From the Heavy Farm Wagon to Automobiles)

The great transition in the manufacturing and sale of conveyances, is brought to memory by the above names.

George Dillman had his home and small wagon shop along the road leading northward from Earl Union School in Earl Township, on the farm now owned by George S. Martin. He made heavy farm wagons, and an occasional Conestoga wagon to run from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia, during the early "thirties," "forties" and "fifties". These wagons were all constructed from logs sawed and hewed out of the forests surrounding his shop.

Samuel, one of his sons who learned the trade, saw the waning of the day of the heavy wagon. He foresaw the future demand for lighter vehicles and turned his attention into that direction.

About the close of the Civil War he established his trade in the old place of coach making and blacksmithing, on the property of Hon. Anthony E. Roberts. It was situated along a private alley, now Railroad avenue, then described as being below the"Styer House Barn." George Seigle and Conrad Weist had conducted the shop since 1840.

Conrad Weist, an expert blacksmith, had the traditional credit of being the first man in the county, east of Lancaster, to manufacture "Elliptic springs" hammered out of steel bars for pleasure carriages.

The former reputation of this shop, and being the son and mechanical product of one of the old time wagonmakers, gave young Dillman a boost in his undertaking. The business thrived under his management, until he sold out to E. Lewis/Roseboro and Jonathan H. Weaver early in the "seventies".

The works prospered beyond expectation and became the largest factory of light vehicles in the county towns. Mr. Weaver withdrew from the firm in 1900, and Mr. Roseboro, with the aid of his sons, followed the expansion of the factory and trade until 1914. At this time it was turned over to his son, Chester E. Roseboro. The factory then consisted of two and three story, brick and frame buildings, having a front of 130 feet and a depth of nearly 200 feet.

This building, with all its contents of great value, was destroyed by fire, which originated in the paint rooms of

the shops, on the night of September 28, 1916. The original Wright Bakery was also destroyed.

Upon the site of these ruins Mr. C. E. Roseboro erected the present large cement block garage, coach shops, show rooms and storage rooms. The business is now-conducted by the Wright Brothers, in connection with their extensive Bakery. The most improved trucks and luxurious sedans are sold on the same spot where less than one hundred years ago, the first springs of steel were hand-forged. The The steel springs were the turning point in the history of the old stage and pleasure coach. The carriage bodies hung on swinging leather straps, ingeniously fastened to curved, heavy, wooden springs attached to the wooden axles. They were placed to absorb the shocks and jolts, which were otherwise painful and almost unendurable for a day's travel over the rough roads of that time.

The marvelous change in modes of travel and locomotion can only be seen by thepresent generation in museums. These exhibits are frequently very poor specimens of the remote age. Fifty years ago, the entire collection could have been procured by attending a half a dozen farm sales in Earl Township, with an expenditure of less than one hundred dollars.

In 1903, Mr. Jonathan Weaver, mentioned as being a partner with Mr. Roseboro in the manufacturing of carriages, entered into partnership with Mr. Abraham B. Groff. They erected a large carriage factory near Mr. Groff's extensive hardware store. and Mr. Weaver remained in the work until his death. The business was continued by Mr. Groff during his lifetime.

There were wheel-wright, blacksmith and repair shops in the village since its origin. However in this automobile age, the farmers have difficulty in securing a smith to shoe their horses and repair farming tools and machinery.

SHOEMAKERS

The old time shoemakers were possibly the most needed men in a new settlement. The statement is made that during the "thirties," there were eight shops in the village.

W. W. Davis says in the Clarion of December 31, 1910, "The largest shoe shop of the town in 1840, was the one operated by Hull and Darrow, where the New Holland National Bank now stands. Othere shops in the town at that time were those of John Dick and Jacob Brown."

The tailors at that time were Jacob Smith, Philip McCauly, and Abraham Houser. McCauly often employed five or six assistants.

William Norris opened the first barber shop in New Holland about 1830. He and his family lived in the north end of the old school house. His barber shop was situated on Main street.

NEW HOLLAND CONCRETE COMPANY

The New Holland Concrete Works was originated by Aaron B. Rutt, near Honey Brook, Chester County. The equipment was moved to this town in the spring of 1915.

The business showed an era of prosperity in the line of building bridges and making pipes for public roads.

In the summer of 1918, the plant was sold to G. Paul Musselman, who erected larger buildings and doubled the output in short time. In January 1920, the Musselman Concrete Pipe Company was incorporated. The firm failed in the purposes of its undertakings, and the company sold its plant with the railroad siding, large buildings, machinery, and appliances, to the New Holland Concrete Company.

Mr. Rutt, the founder of the business twenty years ago, always managed the production and mechanical part of the enterprise.

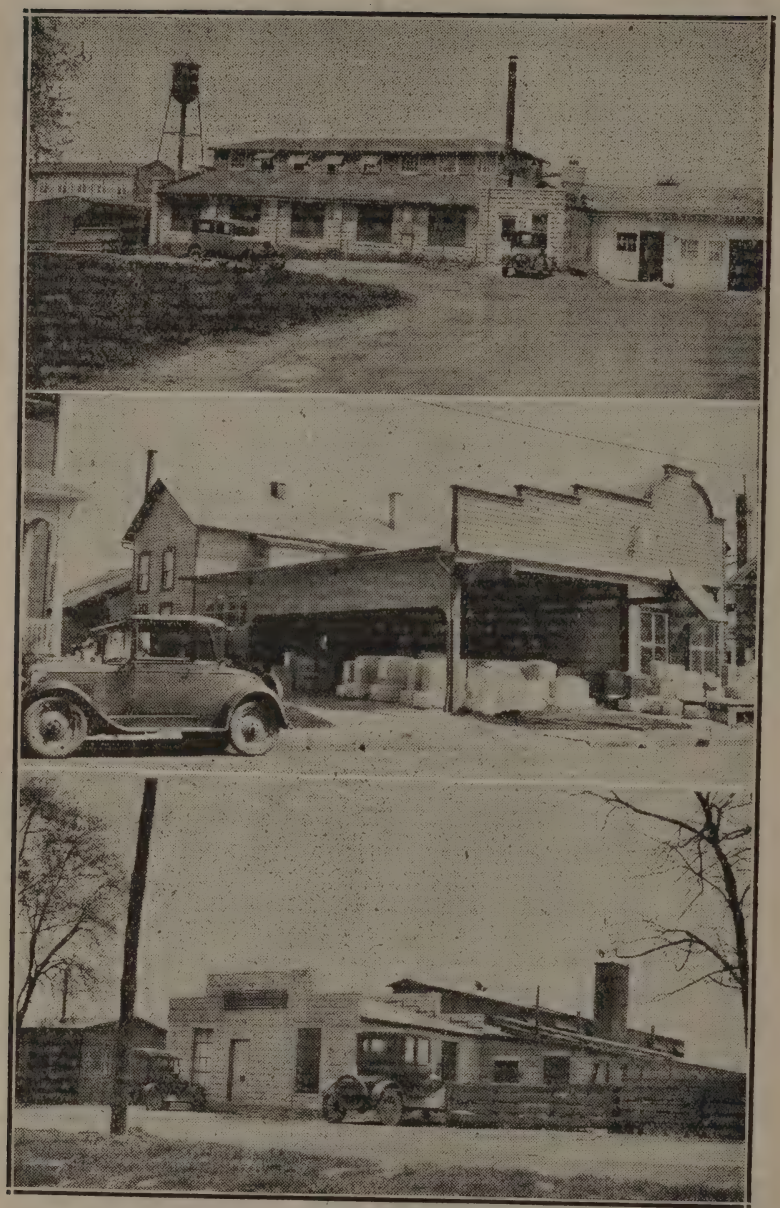
CIGAR FACTORIES

Several times while our neighboring town, Terre Hill, was booming with cigar factories, enterprising men opened shops of a similar nature in the Borough. The majority of them were closed after a short duration.

The most successful of these factories was-conducted in the brick warehouse of R. H. Brubaker, in 1885, by Dillworth Brothers, of Pittsburgh. Jerome Boyer, of Terre Hill, was the foreman. The plant employed fifty people. The opening of the following year, the factory closed its doors and the hands went to the several other factories of the company in the neighboring towns.

In 1901, Wm. W. and Eli Stauffer, came from Caernarvon Township, where they had conducted a cigar business for some years. They built their factory on Grant Street, which has been enlarged several times to accommodate their work.

They manufacture a high grade of hand made cigars, and conduct quite an extensive business.



Upper---Reliable Lumber and Planing Mill Co.
Center---T. M. Storb's Sons'.
Lower---New Holland Brass, Bronze and Aluminum Co.

STEAM FLOUR MILL

From 1887 to 1896, a steam flour mill was in operation south of the tracks on Railroad avenue, owned by George Beiler. The building was a three story frame structure, 48 by 50 feet, with a daily capacity of thirty barrels of flour.

On August 26, 1896, the factory and contents, together with the dwelling house belonging to the mill, occupied by Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Groff, the miller and his family, was destroyed by fire.

A new milling venture in New Holland started when Burkholder and Hoober erected their extensive feed mills in 1920. It is at present operated by the New Holland Milling Company in connection with their large flour mill on the Pequea.

THE MILK STATION

The milk station at the corner of Franklin street and Custer Avenue was opened by John W. Scott about October 1, 1904. This proved of considerable value to the founder and present owners, as the number of cows in the farming districts have increased since the establishing of these stations along the Downingtown and Lancaster Branch.

BRICK YARDS AND POTTERIES

Brick making was one of the early industries of the community. The last brick yard and kilns, were operated by Christian Brimmer,on one of the numerous Brimmer properties, now occupied by Musselman Brothers' Lumber and Coal yards. The last bricks made in New Holland, were used for the dwelling now owned by Miss Page Smith and her sister. It was built in 1886 by Mr. Levi Brimmer. He is the only man living in New Holland now, who worked in the old brick yards at this place.

Mr. Brimmer says that the making of 2500 bricks for the kiln, was considered a day's work for one set of four men. One man mixed or tempered the clay with hoe and shovel, and filled the wheelbarrow; another one, wheeled the clay to the man with the mold and trowel, who formed the bricks to the correct size and shape; the other helper carried them to the drying board or scaffold. They were removed to the kiln after being hard enough to handle.

The bottom of the old clay bed was so hard that no drainage occurred. Situated in a low place, a large body of water accumulated during the winter and spring months. This was used in mixing the clay during the season of brick-

making which lasted from April to November.

There was no trouble then with the drainage water below Railroad Avenue and this supply became exhausted during long dry seasons. The brick factory was compelled to haul their water to mix and temper the clay. At other times, the water accumulated to the depth of five feet and became the bathing resort for the boys and young men of the town. The yellow clay water was not conducive to cleanliness, and the mothers of the bathers never encouraged their boys to indulge in this sport at the brick yards.

The only machine, or manual labor saving device, ever used in the manufacturing of bricks at New Holland, was an upright log fastened into a strong frame. The lower part was placed in a large wooden hopper, with strong cross arms containing knives or spikes. This was operated by a horse hitched to a long crooked beam, that was fastened to the top of the log. The horse traveled in his circular path many a weary day, as the attendant shoveled dry clay and poured water into the great hopper. The clay, mixed and tempered steadily dropped into the wheelbarrow.

John Powell was long remembered as the most expert hand brick moulder in New Holland. Daniel Auffleback, of Lancaster, was regularly employed to properly fill the kiln, and regulate the fires. There was also a brick kiln at Blue Ball and another at Voganville.

POTTERY WORKS

Richard Goshen and his sons operated a pottery on the grounds especially fitted for the work, between the Methodist Church and the residence of Isaac H. Snader. The Road family conducted another pottery for many years, on the farm now owned by Elmer J. Loomis, in the eastern part of the town. These factories made pottery of all kinds which had ready sale all over the country.

HARNESS MAKERS

The trade of saddle and harness making and the manufacture of the fine strong gears for the old Conestoga teams, was plied with great ability and care in this town.

The earliest saddler of which we have authentic records, was John Orie, who died November 19, 1830. The inventory of the contents of his shop contained among other articles, not now kept in stock by our enterprising Mr. Becker, several saddle bags, a side saddle, and several pairs of women's stirrups. His tombstone in the Lutheran Cemetery shows that he was only 43 years old.

From the Clarion of August 28, 1909, I learn, that Mr. Orie was a Frenchman and came to New Holland about 1820. He served in Napoleon's ill-fated army which invaded Russia, in 1812. He often stated, that the French army numbering half a million men, left France in June, and returned late in November, a straggling column of 25,000 wretched fugitives, of which he was one. After Napoleon's final overthrow in 1815, Orie came to America. He died a comparatively young man, never having fully recovered from the exposure of the Russian campaign.

Another well remembered harness-maker (by reputation and by quite old residents) was Solomon Weaver, who had his business near the site of auctioneer Hershey's home. His son, Richard Weaver, continued the trade at the same shop. We are told that the elder Mr. Weaver was a fine mechanic, and that many young men who had served their apprenticeship elsewhere, came here to finish their trade before launching out in business for themselves.

Henry J. Besore and Martin R. Good, both soldiers in the Civil War, also operated shops of their own in this town. They are still living among us, and can furnish exact information of the customs and the necessary qualifications of men working at the trades of their boyhood days.

CLOCK MAKERS

Mr. Isaac Witwer, the musical genius, was no doubt the most gifted mechanic living in this town, excepting the old clock makers Esterley and Carpenter. He was interested in many lines, but he never cared to have any of his devices patented.

There were no window screens in his mother's home to keep the flies from the kitchen table when he was a boy. He made a machine, with weights arranged in the second floor of the house, that moved a fly brush to and fro over the dishes while the family ate their meals.

He manufactured many musical instruments which were used in the parlors of the best homes in the county, and of service in many bands of musical organizations.

In 1878, he completed the largest musical instrument which is now remembered to his credit. He constructed the pipe organ for the St. Johns Lutheran and Reformed Church, generally known as "Center" in East Earl Township. It was dedicated on June 8th of that year. The writer remembers the dedication day, and of seeing Mr. Witwer presiding at the organ, which he constructed in his building at New Holland. As proof of his superior workmanship after

fifty years of continual service, we note that the instrument is still in use. Mr. Witwer died childless, and the manufacture of musical instruments in the town was ended.

As will be noted in another part of this little book, Mr. Witwer was leader of the Regimental Band in the Civil War. His company remained for sometime at Washington, D. C., when returning from the conflict in 1865. He was induced to buy a lottery ticket, while he was stationed there, for a dollar. After he had resumed his humble station in New Holland some months later, he received the welcome news that he had won the lottery prize, a house in the capital city worth $8,000.00. He sold his newly acquired possession at once, and bought the old home of Frederick Seeger, Esq.

As though he intended to erect a monument to this respected citizen, Mr. Witwer built a large brick business place, on the spot where Frederick Seeger spent all of his days in this borough. It is now the Showalter Building.

(Frederick Seeger, Esq., was one of the foremost citizens of the new settlement, especially during th trying periods of reconstruction after the Revolution and the war of 1812. He came here from Philadelphia in 1779 and was one of the first merchants in the center of this new American populace. He taught the early settlers the advantages of the broader plans of American life and commerce.)

Prominent Men Before 1860

Conestoga Wagons

Ground Rents

DR. PETER BAKER

Dr. Peter Baker was the first practitioner of medicine in New Holland. The initial mention of his name occurs in the transaction of real estate in 1760, when be bought several tracts of land in Earl Township. Lot No. 10, from the Diffenderfer plan of lots, was included in this property. This is the same lot on which the New Holland Electrical Shop and residence of Levi K. Bear, is now located. It extended across the street, now the lawn in front of the Clarion office, where the Doctor lived in a small house of the regular village type. He and his son Peter, owned several small farms in Earl, and one of the five acre lots belonging to the village.

Dr. Baker sold this lot No. 10 to Dr. John Luther, June 6, 1782. He died in 1785 and Dr. Luther was one of the witnesses on his will.

Dr. Luther also owned Lot No. 12, which included the present Eagle Hotel and Telephone Company property. At the time of his death in 1828, he lived in a brick dwelling with offices, on the site now occupied by the Wright Bakery store.

The following statement is taken from an announcement in the "Herald" of 1828. "Dr. Luther recently died. His son, Diller Luther will continue the practice of their well-chosen profession at the house of his father. His widow, Elizabeth Luther, will continue to keep a full assortment of all kinds of medicines and drugs at the home of her late husband, and asks for the continued patronage of the community."

This is said to have been the first drug store in eastern Lancaster county. In the same issue of the "Herald," Dr. T. W. Veazey, announces that he will be at the service of the people in his profession and that he may always be found at the house of Mrs. Smith, when not absent on professional business. (Mrs. Smith was the widow of Edward Smith, Esq., living in the frame end of the old Smith home, or in the brick house now occupied by Mrs. Speece.) Dr. Veazey later moved to his Maryland home. Dr. Diller Luther moved to Reading about 1832. His practice was continued by his mother and by his brother, John W. Luther.

W. W. Davis in the Clarion of December 11, 1909, says:

"The Luther Mansion and its offices, in my vision of the past, stands opposite the Lutheran Church with seats at

each end of the porch, and two big front doors, one opening into the doctor's office, and one into the sitting room. The doctor's office was the only drug store in the town and every member of the family was willing and competent to sell and hand out the goods. They had a great reputation in the community. When children were sick, the mothers of the town were as well satisfied by a visit from Mother Luther, as they were if either of her sons, or their father, came in."

"The offices of the older doctor, who died in 1828, were left as he had arranged it---bottles, jars and what not, on the shelves and in the drawers, during the lifetime of his son, John W. Luther, who died in 1870."

At another time in the same columns, W. W. Davis writes:

"Dr. Samuel Ringwalt, a nephew of Dr. John W., grew up in the same family in the old mansion, and became a famous doctor under the tutorship of his illustrious uncle, John W. Luther. He enjoyed the safe confidence from the community and lived in the brick dwelling now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Adam Fry, where he died at an early age. This illustrious family of physicians claimed to be in the direct lineage from the great reformer, Dr. Martin Luther."

ANDREW BRAND

Andrew Brand and his wife Esther, came to New Holland with Frederick Seeger, in the spring of 1779. The two men, Seeger from Germany, and Brand from Switzerland, had both lived in Philadelphia.

They are designated as merchants in their deed for part of lot. No. 7, in the original plan of lots, now occupied by the front lawn of the Lutheran Church and the Showalter Building. They became the first merchants of any extensive note in the village

Mr. Brand had his home in the substantial stone dwelling, later occupied by Capt. William Smith and handed down to the William Smith, well remembered as the cigar store proprietor. Mr. Brand died in 1797, leaving one daughter, wife of Isaac Ellmaker. Mr. Ellmaker succeeded his father-in-law as merchant.

The inventory of Brand's personal property filed in the Register's Office, shows that he had a large amount of store goods on hand at the time of his death, and that the partnership from his old friend, Seeger, had been dissolved during his lifetime.

Isaac Ellmaker, (not the teacher mentioned before) was the next merchant prince in the town. W. W. Davis calls him the "Wannamaker of New Holland" in his day. He

owned the entire business block west of the Seeger possessions to the Hinkletown Lane.

This brick tavern-house and store, nearly one hundred feet lone, now owned by the E. C. Diller family, is the oldest continuous place of public business in the town. After the death of Mr. Ellmaker, his daughter Lucy, and her husband Hon. William Hiester sold it to Hon. Anthony E. Roberts, in 1846. He conducted the store and the hotel and stables across the way, for ten years. He in turn, sold the entire north side of the street to Philip Brubaker, Amos Dilier, Henry R. Brubaker and George W. Smith, in 1856. The title has remained in the Diller family since.

CAPTAIN WILLIAM SMITH

Capt. William Smith, grand-son of Judge Thomas Edwards of Spring Grove, was an officer in the Revolution. He lived during his younger years in Marctic Township. He built the large stone mansion soon after the Revolutionary War, with the cornices and winding stairs elaborately carved, as remembered by the writer. It has now been remodeled and changed. He lived here during the lifetim of his wife, Dinah (Edwards) Smith, who died on the old farm, September 21, 1802.

On May 3, 1803, he sold his fine farm containing 103 acres to Abraham Martin, who divided it among his three sons, Jonas, Jacob and George. The entire farm is still retained in the lineage of the Martin family. The farm seat occupied by Capt. Smith, is now in possession of Jonas M. Martin and his son Eli M. Martin.

When Capt. Smith left his farm he came to New Holland. In October, 1803, he purchased the old home of the deceased Andrew Brand in the eastern end of the village, and a small tract of land for a garden at North Kinzer Avenue.

While living here with his family of children, he served the township as Justice of the Peace and other public services. He died December 4, 1806, and is buried in the old Bangor Cemetery at Churchtown, by the side of his wife and several children.

In his will made a short time before his death, he gave his home in New Holland to his son, Edward Smith, who seems to have been living with him. He succeeded his father in the legal line of work, but died in 1824 when only 59 years old.

Edward Smith left a widow and six small children, one of whom was George Smith, the postmaster for many years in New Holland. William Smith, another son, chose for his

guardian Hon. William Hiester, who accepted the home at the appraisement, and deeded it to his ward when he was twenty-one years old. It remained in the Smith family until it was purchased by Storb, Snader & Company, Inc., in 1918. It is therefore seen at a glance, that George W. Smith, who was the honored postmaster of this town for so many years, was a brother to the second William Smith, and a grand-son of Capt. William Smith, of Revolutionary fame.

The fine type of Colonial house, now occupied by David Swope and family, as a part of the Silk Mill property, has undergone many changes. However, the general lines and style of the colonial homes of well-to-do people of that age, can readily be traced. It is possibly the last one of its distinct type, since the removal of the stone end of the Hiester Mansion several years ago. It would not be too late to make an effort to restore it to its original state.

HON. ANTHONY E. ROBERTS

From the Clarion of Jan. 24, 1885, is the following:

"Hon. Anthony E. Roberts, who was born in Chester County, in 1803, died at his home in Lancaster, yesterday at the age of 81 years. He came to New Holland in 1816, when he was thirteen years old, and entered the store of his uncl, Isaac Ellmaker, where he served as clerk until he was twenty years old, when he received an interest in the business. He remained in this business until 1839, when he was elected Sheriff of Lancaster County for three years.

He was appointed U. S. Marshall in 1849, by President Taylor and remained in office during Fillmore's administration. During his term in this office, the exciting Christiana riots over the escaping fugitive slaves took place, and the gang of Counterfeiters and outlaws at the Gap were raided. In the fall of 1854, Mr. Roberts was elected to Congress, while living in New Holland, from this district, on the American Know Nothing Party Ticket. In 1855 he moved to Lancaster, and in 1856 he was again returned to Congress; this time on the Republican Ticket.

In 1840, he was married to Emma, a daughter of Andrew Bushong, with whom he left three sons, and eight daughters, none of whom reside in New Holland. He was on the warmest terms of friendship with Thaddeus Stevens, and was named as one of the executors in the "great Commoner's will.' "

It might be added with propriety, that there are many lasting monuments in this little town to his memory. He was second man to represent this district in the National

Congress and his actions there, were always true to his constituents.. Although he came from the English speaking district of Chester, his newly acquired German neighbors, and especially the plain people of the community, looked upon him as their friend and champion of their rights. He owned much real estate in, and adjacent to, the village. He assisted in freeing many of the original lots from the troublesome ground rents which will be mentioned in another part of this work.

HON. WILLIAM HIESTER

William Hiester, early in the "twenties," came from his boy-hood home in Bern Township, Berks County. He entered the store of his father-in-law, Isaac Ellmaker, where Anthony E. Roberts had already been employed for some time. Lawrence Joseph Hiester was the young storekeeper's first cousin, and when an opening occurred for a Justice of the Peace in the district, which at that time included the three Earls and Caernarvon Township, the New Holland man had no trouble to get the appointment. Through his official capacity, and the popularity of his store connections, he soon became favorably known in his new home.

In 1828, he was a candidate for Congress against James Buchanan, who was elected at that time. At the next general election in 1830, Mr. Hiester was elected as a representative of this great district. He served three terms, or six years. He was also honored by being elected as a member of the Constitutional Convention, which revised and improved the Constitution of the State in 1836. In 1840, he was elected State Senator, serving two terms, and acted as Speaker of that body in 1842.

He and his family resided in the old Ellmaker home, which was long known as the "Hiester Mansion," until the time of his death in 1853. From the obituary of Mr. Hiester, in the Reading Gazette, a part thereof is taken:

"His declining health, compelled him to withdraw from "public life," and for the ten last years he suffered greatly greatly from a severe paralytic disease, which he bore with Christian fortitude. This terminated in apoplexy, which caused his death. His remains were deposited in a vault prepared by himself, during the last years of his life, at Lancaster, last Sunday, followed by a large concourse of relatives and friends."

His widow, Lucy Ellmaker Hiester, lived in the old historic mansion until the following July, when she followed her il-

HON. ISAAC E. HIESTER

Isaac E. Hiester was the only son of Hon. William and Lucy Ellmaker Hiester. He received the rudiments of his education in the old school house on North Railroad Avenue, and was graduated from Yale College in 1842. He entered the law offices of Hon. Thomas E. Franklin, and was admitted to the Lancaster Bar in 1845. In 1852, one year before the death of his father, he was elected to Congress by the Whig Party. He served one term in the House and left the political field to devote all of his time to his profession. He died in 1871, at the early age of 47 years. He rests with his parents, who assisted in many ways to shape the destinies of their adopted town.

JUDGE WILLIAM ELLMAKER

William Ellmaker, son of George Ellmaker, of Earl Township, received his early education in the old school house at New Holland. He was appointed Associate Law Judge of Lycoming County in 1860, where he resided for several years. He returned to Lancaster County, and for a time managed the farming interests of the Hiester estate. After the death of Hon. Isaac E. Hiester, the farms and homes of the estate were all sold and passed into the hands of strangers. Judge Ellmaker, as he was familiarly known, spent his last days at his home in the eastern end of the town, now owned by Mrs. Lizzie Marks.

HON. AARON W. SNADER

Hon. Aaron W. Snader was born in Earl, (now East Earl) in 1844. He received his education in the schools of East Earl, Churchtown and Millersville. He was admitted to the Lancaster Bar in 1873; elected Justice of the Peace at New Holland 1876; was County Surveyor in 1877; elected State Legislaturer in 1880, and in 1882 and again returned to the same office in 1902, and in 1904. He was the first man from New Holland, to represent this district in any of the legislative halls, after the Hiesters' and Roberts' service.

He also served as one of the trustees of the Millersville State Normal School, and as school director of Earl Township, and of the Borough schools many years.

He died at his home in New Holland, June 28, 1918. It is a peculiar coincidence that Mr. Snader lived for many years in the home long occupied by Hon. Anthony E. Roberts, which was built in the year Mr. Snader was born.

HON. GEORGE H. RANCK

Hon. George H. Ranck was born in Mifflinburg, Union County, and was reared in Leacock Township and educated in the schools of that place. He was also a pupil of the high school, and was enrolled for several terms in private schools of New Holland.

He became the efficient editor of the New Holland Clarion, was elected as Justice of the Peace here, and to several Republican State Conventions. He was elected to the State Legislature in 1889. He served as a school director in the borough for many years. He was the seventeenth post master, holding that office seven years. He was also the first Burgess.

Mr. Ranck very acceptably filled a position on the editorial staff of the Altoona Tribune, for nearly three years; and for several years filled a like position with the Everett Republican.

Gabril Davis, John Piersol, Philip Brubaker and William Hiester constituted the firm conducting the general store in the business block, during the greater part of the early "forties." In 1855, Gabril Davis withdrew from the firm and moved with a colony from this place to Sterling, Illinois. The family, which included a son, Wm. W. Davis, then nineteen years old, made their home in this new community. Young Davis had graduated from the school on the Hinkletown Road. He attended Avery's school in the Roberts Building, and was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College, before moving to their new home. He was a correspondent for many of the largest dailies in the country. He was also a frequent contributor to the Clarion, giving much valuable history of New Holland as he knew it.

From one of his contributions, we quote the following extracts. They illustrate important periods of the life of our town and country:

"My father and Congressman Hiester were fast friends. Among his papers, I found an old letter, folded and sealed with wax, without envelope and in one corner was written, 'W. Hiester, Free.' The letter explains itself.

" 'Washington, D. C., Dec. 15, 1833.

" 'Gabril Davis:

" 'Dear Sir:

" 'As was anticipated, the removal of the deposits has elicited the attention of both branches of Congress; notwithstanding the opposition of the President and his

Secretary of the treasury includes the greater weight of talent in both houses. Yet I am of the opinion that a majority of our house are ready to say the President has done right, and that the Bank must be put down.

" 'Lucy is very well, and joins me in respect to all of our friends.

" 'In haste,
" 'Yours truly
" 'William Hiester' "

Mr. Davis adds as an explanation:

"The school histories of that day will explain about the U. S. Bank. Lucy was Mrs. Hiester, the daughter of Isaac Ellmaker, the most prominent business man in New Holland, about 1800. The Ellmakers and the Rolands were among the wealthier class of the village for a long time. A number of well-to-do people were residents in the town. However, the majority of them worked for a living, only a few were far ahead at the end of the year. Every family had their own chickens and eggs, raised their own hogs, had their own gardens and orchards, made their own applebutter, sour kraut and cheese. Many of them had a cow, made their own butter and supplied their own milk. Only a few of the working people had a horse. They had plenty of good wholesome food, set a good table, put on no style. They were happy, had no graft, no divorce and little scandal.

"Cyrus Lomis, was the white-washer for families who did not whitewash their own walls and rooms. He could whitewash a room and leave no marks on the floor. Papered walls were not known then.

"Christiana Wunderlich, a strong woman, was also much in demand for fine whitewashing of fine rooms, every spring and fall. She was honest, efficient and faithful, and was held in high esteem in the whole town. On her tomb should be written, 'well done, good and faithful servant.'

"When distress, sickness, or kindred troubles entered the humble homes of the town, widows and mothers were always glad for the comforting presence and assistance of Mrs. Elizabeth Luther and Lydia Brimmer, who were the first to go to relief.

"In 1850, a man walked from Philadelphia to New Holland in a day, fifty-two miles. About the same time, I walked from Lancaster to my home in New Holland in three hours, passed a milestone every fifteen minutes.

"John Hull was a born naturalist. There was no bird or animal along Mill Creek or Conestoga, nor in the woods that he did not know. He was a teacher under Prof. Wickersham

in the town and township. His parents were John and Polley Hull, lived in a house now removed, on the Hinkletown Road. John lost an arm, by the explosion of a toy cannon when he was a boy; but this was no handicap to him for success in life. He died in Allentown where he had become a man of good station and influence."

ROLAND DILLER

Roland Diller, Esq., died at New Holland September 16, 1882, aged 83 years. He had been a justice in Earl Township from 1829, when he was appointed to that office by Governor J. A. Shultz. He was one of the main stays of the Anti-Masonic Herald.

His obituary brought forth the following letter from W. W. Davis:

"There was the Squire Diller House, opposite the Styer House.About 1850, the family consisted of Roland Diller, his widowed sister, Mrs. Wilson and her daughter Ann Wilson. Roland was never married, and was the best read man then living in New Holland. His library had all the standard works on history and general literature. He read from morning till night, when no clients were in his office. He was the lawyer for all Earl, and many adjoining townships, and wrote more deeds and wills than is generally allotted to one man. He read on a leaning setee on the porch in the summer, and at night propped up in his bed. Suddenly, like a flash, he lost the sight of one eye, and the other eye was dimmed. His later days were spent in sadness, because of this affliction. He cared little for style, much less for the vanity of dress. His sister, Mrs. Wilson, was also well read, and to hear them speak of what they read and gleaned from the well selected library, inspired many young people in the town to a higher plane of life.

"Their home was cozy, wide halls, old-fashioned pictures on the parlor and office walls, and the never-to-be-forgotten wide antique fire places with beautiful mantels.

"But alas, with Squire Diller's old home passing into other hands, those historic old fireplaces were walled up, and the ideal of an ancestral home has vanished from the earth."

(The Squire Diller home, with its wide porch and balcony on the eastern side thereof, is now the home of Druggist Wm. M. Stauffer and family.)

SOLOMON DILLER

Solomon Diller, a brother of Squire Roland Diller, died in 1883. He was a member of the State Legislature in the

years 1836-37-38 and 39. He was also president of the New Holland Turnpike Company for thirty-seven years. His home was the beautiful country seat, near the gushing springs first found and admired by Rev. Casper Stoever, nearly two hundred years ago (now owned by Reuben H. Nolt). (M. G. W.)

"When I was eleven years old I attended the funeral of the last Revolutionary soldier of New Holland, David Diffenderfer. He lived in the center of town, nearly opposite what is now called the Custer Lane. The house was small and the weather pleasant. The people in attendance sat on the various porches during the services.

"He and his sons were prominent members of the Reformed Church."

(The last home of David Diffenderfer was on the site now occupied by Levi B. Weaver.)

"I attended Sunday School. On the fly leaf of my early Bible are these words, written by my father:

" 'The property of William White Davis, Sunday, March 13, 1847. Purchased with sixty red tickets at the New Holland Union S. S. Society. These sixty bits of card board represented many Sundays rain or shine. A good boy.'

"We brought our big grandfathers clock, made by John Esterle, of New Holland.

"In the spring, and before it was too cold in the fall, the school yard back of the old Styer tavern, now called the New Holland House, was a rendezvous of all the boys of the town. Corner ball was the regular game. Baseball and the deadly bootball had not been invented. Much fun, and no one ever killed. Do you still play it?

"About 1850, before and after we used tallow candles in our home, we sat around the table to study and read. Mother did her family sewing by the same yellow light. Everybody had them; nobody knew any better. You could buy them in stores, eight candles to a pound. Most families made their own, with moulds made by tinners.

"John S. Stager moved to Sterling, Illinois, in 1855. In his old home town he was Justice of the Peace, surveyor and job printer, striking off little sale bills for the farmers." (He was a brother of Isaac Stager, the teacher. His home and office was in the one and one-half story brick house where Mrs. Kohler's home is now located.

W. W. Davis is responsible for the statement that "Herr Lengle, the famous Lion Tamer performing in many wild animal shows, was born in New Holland. From here, his father with his family, moved to Reamstown, and from

there to Philadelphia. The boy spent all his spare moments around the wild animal shows, and in the zoo, until he was familiar with their wild natures and became an expert in playing and working with them."

Several times in W. W. Davis' recitals of his boyhood and school days at New Holland, he marshals his young friends of yore in his imagination. He names John Shultz, Roland Brubaker, Diller and Roland Shirk, Charles Mentzer, (Edwin and Horace Yundt, Ed. Wallace, John Galt, all walked from East Earl,) Bill Darrow, John Hull, Sam Ringwalt, Frank Diffenderfer, James Diller, Ellen Shultz, Annie Brubaker, Lizzie Diller, the Luther and the Ellmaker girls, "and a host of others." He closed with the well-known lines:

"I've wandered to the village,
I've sat beneath the tree,
Upon the school house play ground
That sheltered you and me,
But none were left to greet me,
And none were left to know,
That played with us upon the green
Some sixty years ago."

JOHN W. SHEAFFER

John W. Sheaffer, son of Jacob Sheaffer, was born May 11, 1821, near this town. He came to New Holland when he was fifteen years old and hired his services to Hon. Anthony E. Roberts, in 1836. He remained for four years as "all around man," working in and around the tavern, and the store of Roberts and Davis.

He learned tinsmithing and worked at this trade until 1855. In this year, he and his family moved with a colony, including several of the Goshen brothers, who were potters, to Sterling, Illinois.

His wife was Eliza Goshen, daughter of Richard Goshen, proprietor of the pottery at the present site of the M. E. Church. Richard Goshen lived with his sons and daughters and their families, on the site of the present homes of Miss Anna Harner and Miss Hattie Diller.

He enlisted in the army of the north in 1862, and saw service in many hard-fought battles for two years. He was discharged with his regiment, one-half of which had been lost in conflict. He spent the balance of his life in his new Illinois home, working at the trade of pump-making, which he had learned in his youth while in this staid old village. He employed his spare time doing research work

in history and religious subjects. Mr. Sheaffer, like Mr. Davis, was a frequent contributor to the Clarion, extract of which may be of interest, and may open avenues to a period of growth and development which might otherwise be forgotten.

This is the same Mr. Sheaffer mentioned in the history of the Reformed Church, as being the first president of the Sunday School of that congregation in 1853. He, and Henry Shirk, a much older man, have the credit as having been the pioneers in active temperance and total abstinence work in New Holland.

In the Clarion of May 6, 1894, Mr. Sheaffer writes:

"When I came to New Holland in 1836, Gabril Davis, Hon. Anthony E. Roberts (with whom I was employed), Roland and Solomon Diller, William Hiester, Henry Roland, Sr., Aaron and ewis Custer, William Kinzer, Abraham Smoker, Dr. John W. Luther, John R. Brubaker and Samuel Ringwalt were among the leading business men. 'Elliptic spring wagons, cooking stoves, parlor coal stoves, and oil lamps were unknown. The grain cradle, whereby one man could cut, bind and shock one acre of wheat in a day, was called a speedy harvester. Crude threshing machines, whereby the grain was threshed and left to be fanned or separated from the chaff by hand, were struggling for recognition as being an improvement over the old plan of pounding it out with the flail, or tramping it with horses.

"Spinning wheels, flax brakes, and the Conestoga wagons were in the highest peak of popularity in the country."

On March 13, 1897, he writes:

"The first rain water cistern was built in New Holland, at the home of Catherine Ellmaker, in the summer of 1836. The next one to be built was in the fall of the same year by 'Squire' Roland Diller, on the Druggist Stauffer property.

"Hon. William Hiester, had his great, wooden rain water tubs removed at his historic old home the following year, and made a cistern.

"Gabril Davis, took the plan of placing a number of barrels in his cellar, and filled them with rain water for use when the outside water would freeze.

"Lawn mowers were unknown. The front yards were mown with the scythe, with long intervals between acts. Hon. William Hiester, brought home with him from Washington, D. C., a very small sickle, a kind much in use on the fine lawns of that city, to trim neatly. Many ladies of New Holland sent their boys to borrow it, always receiving

definite instructions from Mr. Hiester's colored servant, as to how to use it."

On March 6, 1897, he writes:

"In 1834, before I lived in New Holland, I saw three men in Ream's tin shop assisting Hon. Anthony E. Roberts in setting up the first coal stove used in New Holland. This was the beginning of burning coal in this section, which came into use very slowly."

A week later he writes:

"E. Kirkpatric and brother, coachmakers (situated in the rear of the present Kilhefner's lunch rooms), made the first threshing machine in the county, about 1835. They soon moved their factory to Lancaster. This machine was first used when a trial operation was made to operate it with horse power, on the farm of John W. Groff (now owned by Noah L. Nolt). Many men went from New Holland to see this wonderful machine which promised to thresh thirty (30) bushels of wheat in half a day. Laborers, however, were dismayed at the thought that this machine would take away from them their winter's job of threshing the farmers' crops with the flail.

"About the same time, a corn sheller with one hole, began to be used. It was a marvel, as it shelled the corn from the cobs, saving the cobs for fuel.

"Sheriff Adam Bair allowed several young men to shell his corn, they were to receive the cobs for their wages. Prior to this machine, the corn was tramped from the cobs, by riding horses over it on the barn floor, which ground the cobs to pieces.

"The plows used in breaking up this new country had wooden mould boards, if any. The first cast iron mould boards came into use in Lancaster county, between 1838 and '40.

"In 1836, when I began to work in the store of Roberts and Davis, there were only a few factories in Lancaster and Reading which supplied the goods that we sold, excepting boots, shoes, hats, stone and earthen ware and bricks."

CONESTOGA WAGONS

On April 10, 1897, Mr. Sheaffer writes:

"In 1820, the building of a Conestoga Wagon was more important to the people of the new country, than the construction of several luxurious pullman cars of today are to the present generation. To complete one of these useful wagons from the woods of the forests, fully equipped with

ily engaged for two months. A finished wagon cost $250.

"A wagon carrying four hogshead required four horses, and a five hogshead wagon required six horses.

"From thirty to thirty-five barrels of flour, made a full load. The wagon weighed from 3000 to 3500 pounds.

"A thousand dollars or sometimes twelve hundred dollars was invested in one of these teams. A careful driver, who would care well for the horses and goods, was selected to have charge of it. Hills, bad roads, thieves and careless drivers were to be watched, and all depended on the driver to make it pay.

"Usually a squad of teams went together, four or six. The drivers slept in their wagons or on the tavern floor.

From 1836 Gideon Weaver, the father of the writer, was a builder of Conestoga wagons during the "sixties" and "seventies", in the Conestoga Valley. He continued producing the same style wagons without canvas tops, and without the full swell of the body, for the use of forges, furnaces, and iron mines, in Eastern Lancaster County. I can attest to having seen many forest trees taken from the stump and converted into one of these cumbersome ships of early commerce. They were made by hand with the exception of using a saw and a turning lathe operated by water power.

The saw mill cut the huge logs into planks, running from four inches down to two inches, by half inch differences in each plank. Another log would contain in its grading, boards of thickness from one half inch to one and one half inches. Another log would make the hubs. Several log butts produced the spokes. All were split and hewed out of the rough by the dexterous use of the hand-ax.

In this condition the planks, spokes, hubs and boards were ranked in their proper places and re-ranked twice. This lumber was kept under the careful eyes of the wagon-maker for three years, before any of it was used in a newly constructed, first-class wagon .

There were many wagons made with six wheels belonging to it. The higher set, to be used for a trip to Philadelphia; and the lower set to be used on the farm. The wheels used under the front carriage in a trip to the city would be used under the rear part when the wagon was used on the farm.

The high bodies were different to fit their intended uses. The commercial wagons had high sides, with three adjustable chains across the tops to hold them together. The bottom had an enormous double swell, so that barrels,

casks or hogsheads, which constituted many of their loads, would work towards the middle instead of breaking out the sides as the wagons rolled along the road. The body used for hauling charcoal from the mountains, had only one swell, but much higher sides and extra top shelvings with extra guard chains.

The furnace teamster wanted the swell in the bottom, lower sides, with less bend in the top rails. The iron ore men demanded stronger and lower sides and movable bottom. Gradually, but surely, the identity of the old ship of commerce has been lost.

There were four varieties of lumber used in the construction of the early wagons. The axles were hickory and the hubs were of gum. These two parts were the foundation of a good wagon. The heaviest pieces were always seasoned four years before used. On the cut of the wooden spindle, the proper iron plating and the setting of the ponderous wheels, depended the success or failure of the construction. Any practical teamster, or maker, could tell the quality of a wagon when the many squads or caravans lumbered down the pike.

All the other parts of the wagon and body were made out of white oak excepting the sides of the body and tool boxes, which were of half inch poplar. The sliding board, which extended from the left side under the body, was pushed back under the carriage when not in use. It served as a seat or standing place for the driver when he adjusted the brakes (with a lever at the side of the body) and was made of the toughest white oak. This was a dangerous perch, and a break of the seat would mean death to the driver and destruction of the team and load.

The test of a good driver was to stand on this running board and control his team by word of mouth, or to crack his whip, by several dexterous twangs, without hitting a horse, and without speaking a word to his animals. He regarded the animals as sacredly (if he was a first-class man) as a boy regards his pets.

The average distance for a loaded wagon on a long stretch or trip was twenty miles in a day.

GROUND RENTS

In the original plans of the village by Michael Diffenderfer, a tax, in the form of "Ground Rent Charges", was placed on every one of the lots within the scope of the plan of "New Design". This was patterned after the community governments of his ancestral home in Europe.

"A charge of seven shillings (or ninety-three and one-third cents) to be paid to the proprietor, Michael Diffenderfer, on every first day of March, or to his heirs and assigns, forever," was placed on every one of the twenty-five lots, between Custer avenue and Brimmer avenue. However, no charges were placed on any other lots or fields in and around the village.

By his will, dated August 27, 1788, the proprietor made the wise provision that the ground rents, which had been a source of much controversy, should be sold and transferred by his executors. The dues, however, were collected by the Diffenderfer estate until 1808, when they were sold to John Jones. Mr. Jones, after one collection, sold them to Mathias Shirk, who received the dues until 1825. In this year he sold them to Henry G. Weaver, who collected the rents ten years. He sold his rights to Henry Shirk, in in 1835, who kept their income until 1839. Henry Shirk sold all his rights to Isaac Holl and they remained in the possession of the Holl family until 1852. Dr. Levi Holl, of Lititz, and his brother, Capt. Isaac Holl, of this place, sold them to Hon. Anthony E. Roberts.

Eight of these lots were released before this date and Mr. Roberts collected the annual rents on seventeen of them for twenty years. In 1872 he released the entire remaining number for the sum of three hundred dollars. Beginning at the eastern end, lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25, either on the north or south, or on both sides of the street, owned respectively by Christian and Adam Brimmer, John Diller, Wendle Holl, Dr. John W. Luther, Rachel Strunk, Christian Freshmuth, Margaret Brubaker, Samuel Davis, John Miller, Elizabeth Roland Est., George H. Ranck, Joseph Jones Est., C. S. Musselman, Louisa Carothers,, A .G. Sutton, Mary and Elizabeth Grim, Henry A. Roland, Margaret Moyer, John Diffenderfer and Dr. Israel Bushong.

Nearly fifty years later several other lots, not included in this deal, were finally cleared of this objectional relic, by a decree of the Orphan's court.

It will be noticed that all the properties between the two avenues, excepting Diller's Store block, have changed from the family names and lineage, since the ground rents were cleared less than sixty years ago.

In the above list of names is that of the estate of Joseph Jones, who lived in a two-story brick dwelling with his family on the present school house grounds. He owned eight small frame and log houses on both sides of the street, oc-

cupying Roberts avenue. This property and the sites of the Hoober and Renninger homes, assumed the name of Jonestown, which it clung to for many years after the death of the original owner.

Mr. Jones was an exeprt saddler, having learned his trade in Philadelphia. He prided himself with having been selected by the head of his place of employment in that city, to make a saddle for President Washington, which was used by the "Father of his Country" during his term of office.

Cemeteries



A Portion of the Lutheran and Reformed Cemeteries

CEMETERIES

One acre and thirty perches of the original "Glebe Lands", which the fathers of the Lutheran church had surveyed to them in 1737, still remains in their possession today. This land is part of the most beautiful burial park in Lancaster county. The remaining acres of the combined Lutheran and Reformed cemetery plots, are a section of the original Leonard Stone tract.

The Reformed burial ground was opened when their first church was erected in 1799. A stone wall, covered with wide coping, was maintained between the cemeteries for a long time. This barrier was removed by mutual consent, for it was not only useless and burdensome, but unsightly and inconvenient.

The two cemetery associations have fourteen acres of undivided land. This revered ground is dotted with many fine monuments to the memory of the departed residents of this community. They sleep in the shadow of the historic sister churches which enacted an important role in developing this ideal community.

This hillside, gently sloping to the north, was wisely chosen by the forefathers for their "God's Acre". It is the most beautiful spot in New Holland. The view of the entire Conestoga Valley from this burial place is magnificent. Standing near the Reformed church, one can see the beauty of this fertile valley, from the forest hills north of Churchtown on the east, to beyond the place where the Conestoga and the Cocalico mingle their waters in the west, and northward to the misty distance of the Blue and Blue Ridge Mountains in Lebanon and Dauphin Counties.

During the fall and winter of 1902, and the spring and summer of 1903, additional land was converted into use for the Lutheran section. The entire cemetery was graded, terraced and evenly sloped to the lower part toward the north. Tombstones and monuments were set into regular lines; lots were squared; drives and walks were conveniently laid out at regular places, and grass seed was sown. Along the street, a neat stone wall, two hundred and fifty feet long, was built.

The work was supeirntended by H. K. Storb. J. Frank Brubaker, Esq., did the levelling or engineering work, and Samuel Schnupp was the foreman of an able set of workmen.

Soon after this work was completed, the Reformed side of the cemetery was beautified in the same manner. With the removal of the dividing walls, the place has the appearance of one continuous plot.

From this silent city of the dead, and from its many hundreds of epitaphs, we have many glimpses of the real history of the people of the past. One monument tells the story of a brave soldier:

"Brevet Major General John F. Roland was born in New Holland, Jan. 13, 1818. He entered the service of his country as a cadet at West Point, at the age of 14, and was promoted to a commission in the 2nd Regiment U. S. Artillery, in 1836, at the age of 18. He was twice promoted, for meritorous conduct in the war with Mexico.

"He died of Yellow Fever, at Castle Pickney,South Carolina, where he was placed in command, at the early age of 35, in 1852."

His exploits in the Mexican War are briefly told by the mute marble, "Monterey, Palo Alto, Resaca De La Palma."

From another monument, we learn that a brother of Dr. John Luther was:

"Capt. Roland A. Luther, of the 2nd Artillery, U. S. A., born in New Holland, Feb. 1, 1815. Graduated at West Point, in 1836, served during the Creek difficulties, the Florida Indian Wars, and in the disturbances of the Canadian Frontier. Wounded at the battle of Palo Alto, and afterwards joined Gen. Scott, in the city of Mexico, and was placed in command of the Fortress of Chapultepec."

From an extract of Mr. W. W. Davis, we learn that Captain Luther sat on the front porch of the Luther home many summer days (now the pavement in front of Wright's), unable to join his comrades, while he was recovering from his wounds and sickness contracted in the southern swamps. He died on July 9, 1853.

Henry Carpenter, a son of Anthony Carpenter, the clock maker, was another Mexican soldier. He grew to manhood here, and went to the front, where he lost his life far from home.

On the marble shaft that contains the history of Capt. Luther, are recorded the names of his father, and two brothers, all eminent physicians and of great worth to the community.

"Dr. John Luther, 1781-1828.
"Dr. John W. Luther, 1810-1870.
"Dr. Martin Luther, 1826-1894."

Another humble sandstone records Leonard Diller as having died in 1798, at the age of forty years. The records show that he was a soldier in the Revolutionary war when he was quite young.

Another marble shaft recites the exploits of David Diffenderfer, "A soldier in the war of Independence, born Feb. 1752, died May 1846." The extent of his services are briefly told in these words, "Trenton," "Valley Forge," "Princeton," wounded at "Monmouth."

Jacob Diffenderfer, another Revolutionary soldier, who died at the age of ninety-six years, lies buried in the Reformed cemetery. His grave is not marked.

On the same shaft which reveals the history of David Diffenderfer, is the name of "Frank R. Diffenderfer," the well-remembered historian. While standing on this sacred spot, a few lines which he wrote nearly twenty years ago, comes to me: "New Holland, the old place knows me only as a stranger, I go there every few weeks to see my sister, but besides her there are only half a dozen persons who know me. Yet that is today the dearest spot in all the world to me. Sometimes I walk over the old fields, but the fences are changed, and I can hardly tell where I am. I always come away sadder than before, because I can no longer see the landscape, fairest in all the universe."

We learn the following from the marble slab covering the remains of Rev. John F. Engle, who lived in the parsonage in the rear of the Eagle hotel, with his young wife and family. He was pastor of New Holland, Bergstrasse, Reamstown, Muddy Creek and Alleghany charges, and died in the service of his people at the age of 33 years in 1823.

We glean the sure foundations of many a family history from a number of humble stones. In a few simple words they state the places of birth of nearly a score of first settlers, most of whom came from Germany and Switzerland, and a few from Great Britain and France.

The names already mentioned and those on the head stones of Frederick Seegar, and his partner, Jonathan Roland, the single stone with the Davis family history, Dr. John Sturgis, Christian Schneider, James Martin, John Adam Diller, Michael Kinzer, Isaac Ellmaker, with a host of others, remind us very forcibly that many pages of instructive and important history could be unraveled from their mute evidence.

Capt. Isaac R. Diller, quartermaster of the 1st Penna. Regiment in the Scott Campaign, was another Mexican soldier who hailed from New Holland, but after the war made his home in Chicago. He was consul to Florence, Italy, in Cleveland's administration.

Mr. W. W. Davis, who was a nephew of Capt. Diller, carried a cane made from a part of the old flag pole, cut from the Mexican castle of San Juan de Ulloa, in March 1847.

Old Hotels

Slavery in Earl

Live Stock Trade

OLD HOTELS

In 1820, there were nine hotels in the village to take care of the traveling public. At that time all the stores sold whiskey at three cents per glass, giving a cigar in the bargain, and sold cigars for twenty-five cents per hundred. After learning this information, there is little wonder why the barns for the accommodation of the horses (which were all built on the south side of the street) were so much larger and more imposing than any of the hotels on the north side of the street, for many years.

The first large hotel was built by Col. Jacob Ringwalt, soon after 1800, just east of the borough limits, now included in East New Holland Real Estate development. A store was conducted with the hotel and both catered to the so-called sporting element, and the Conestoga wagon trade. The Colonel (who received his title by Batallion fame), as well as all of his successors in the same public function, failed to make the busines a success, and the place became one of the finest farm seats in the community.

The next stopping place of note traveling west was the "Green Tree Hotel", on the site now occupied by Eli Hess' new dwelling.

The hotel in the western end of the business block, now occupied by E. S. Renninger's Hardware Store, was for a long time operated by one of the partners in the merchantile business in the other end of the building. There was an open alley in the rear of the store block, connecting with the street, on the east side of Frederick Seeger's dwelling (now the Showalter Building).

The New Holland House was situated across the Hinkletown lane, from the Ellmaker hotel. It was conducted by the estate of Peter Diller. Both these famous stopping places had their stables south of the street.

Carpenter's Hotel was conducted in the same building for

many years, in which Anthony Carpenter made his famous clocks, as we learn from subsequent incidents in connection with the place. This is one of the original stately dwellings of the community center of 1755.

The Eagle Hotel was conducted in a much smaller building, located on the same site where the present hotel now stands, and which bears the same name. It had the major share of the traveling trade.

The "Red Lion" hotel was the beginning of "Brubaker Town," at the intersection of Diller Avenue with Main Street. It was located in the same dwelling now occupied by Jonathan Ernst. The stables and a prosperous wagon-maker and blacksmith shop stood in the rear, about where the John N. Sauder garage is now erected.

The next hotel westward, named the "Cross Keys," was conducted in the long house on the north side of the street now owned by Miss Annie Ranck. The sign of the place was in the form of two huge wooden keys in a wooden frame, and stood on the south side of the street. It was conducted at that time by Abraham Brubaker, grandfather of the late lamented Roland H. Brubaker, who died at Lancaster several years ago.

Then follows the "Western" which was located on the site of the present home of Amos W. Martin, on the south side of the street. It was also owned by the Brubaker family. With the establishing of the "Western," the Brubakers were able to bring the street to its present location, in the early stages of building this end of the town.

The last hotel to be established in this town was the Styer House, built by John Styer in 1859. He conducted the New Holland House for seventeen years, and his second wife, Susanna Sprecher Brubaker, had been the proprietoress of several hotels and dining rooms before her second marriage. They were pre-eminently fitted to become the owners of this hotel, which was one of the largest in the county. The manner of Mrs. Styer's service in the large dining rooms, and her style of entertaining guests, soon brought fame to the place and fortune to Mr. and Mrs. Styer.

Coaching parties touring the country, frequently made their reservations weeks in advance, at this once famous hostelry. Traveling men and women from Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and other wholesale markets, reserved their rooms and horse accommodations at this place, for their regular visits to this section.

With the coming of the railroad, and the retiring of Mr. and Mrs. Styer about the same time, the former luster and dignity of the place began to lessen. The hotel finally ceased its many years of service, when Mr. and Mrs. S. W. High, the last of a long list of successful proprietors, sold the entire premises in the spring of 1924. The building has undergone many changes and its architectural beauty of three-quarters of a century ago, with wide porches, high columns, large front doors, and spacious halls, is lost.

SLAVERY IN EARL

The old records show that negro slavery existed in Earl Township, among a few of our German ancestors, before 1800. Gabril Davis, of Earl Township, made a written release on March 20, 1792, for his "Negro man, named Doublin, born and brought up in his house, now to be a free man." The Davis' lived on the farm now owned by Isaac N. Martin.

The same year, on April 7, James Martin also of Earl Township, released a negro boy, about twenty-six years old, which he received from the estate of Alexander Martin (his uncle). The Martins lived on the farm now owned and occupied by John B. Ranck. (Recorded in Book M. M. on pages 525 and 822.)

David Davis, of Earl Township, by his will dated October 10, 1768, gave his "Negro man, Jack, and his negro woman, Sal," to his son, John.

The latest evidence of slavery in New Holland, is cited in the will of Peter Diller, made October 16, 1816. He wills his black boy "Thomas," and his bound girls "Maria" and "Feronica" subject to their indenture. This seems strange to us, as slavery was made unlawful in Pennsylvania in 1792

Through the kindness of Miss Annie Bear, we are permitted to give a copy of the form of indenture by which negro slaves were held and exchanged, even in this community.

Copy made by the late Watson Ellmaker:

"Know All Men By These Presents--That I, Thomas Skiles, of Salisbury Township, Lancaster County, in Pennsylvania, for the consideration of eighty pounds and ten shillings lawful money of Penna. in hand paid by Nathaniel Ellmaker the receipt whereof, I do hereby acknowledge, and myself fully satisfied, have bargained, sold to, and delivered unto Nathaniel Ellmaker, of Earl Township, Lancaster County, a Negro Boy named "York," about six years of age.

"To have and to hold the said Negro boy, "York," unto the said Nathaniel Ellmaker, his executors, Administrators and assigns, against any person forever.

"And the said Thomas Skiles, for myself, executors, administrators and assigns, shall and will forever defend by these presents."

Signed by Thomas Skiles, December 9, 1782, in the presence of James Johnston, Peter Smoker and James Skiles.

LIVE STOCK TRADE

Peter Diller, John Myers, Jacob Keller, John Styer, Christian Musselman and Levi Sensenig, were the town's pioneer dealers in live stock, having New Holland as the center of their activities. These men brought hundreds of animals from the Ohio country and the Mississippi Valley, over the mountains on foot. They peddled them among the farmers in the same manner, selling them without the aid of any of the modern communications, and without any banking system nearer than Lancaster. They carried large rolls of money and heavy bags of silver and gold, to pay their purchases from the western stock raisers. The necessity of being supplied with money caused numerous robberies, and several tragedies near New Holland.

The last public announcement of the arrival of any large number of animals coming over the mountains on "hoof," was made August 5, 1876. John Myer of this place, came home on Saturday evening of this date, with a thousand sheep. He pastured them west of the town, having walked with his flock, over four hundred miles, in twenty-three days.

Jacob Keller, well remembered by most of our people, was the first man to conceive the idea of bringing farmers together, and selling cows and other livestock at a public sale. It was the talk of the trade, when he succeeded in selling over twenty-five cows in half a day.

John Darrow ,a popular horseman, held a large bi-monthly public sale of horses, at his stables during the "eighties" and "nineties," now owned by M. F. Becker. The crowd was frequently too large for the alley and small yard in front of the barn, and the sale was brought out on the street. The horses were trotted for inspection, on this main thoroughfare. The crowd of men around the auctioneer often inconvenienced the vehicular traffic.

The activities of the livestock trade, conducted by Eli and Moses M. Weaver, and George K.. Diller, at Blue Ball, proved the advantage of a modern equipped livestock market in the eastern end of the county. New Holland is the center of livestock sales and exchange in the county at the present time.

Harry L. Stauffer held an occasional sale at the Styer House stables in 1913. His venture developed into weekly auctions at the same place, and finally into a stock company. The firm moved into the present large concrete barns, with all the conveniences of a city market, on September 20, 1923. Several hundred animals exchange hands here every week, representing thousands of dollars. The market is patronized by the largest livestock dealers in the state.

BANKS

The New Holland National Bank was opened for business June 18, 1881. The first board of directors consisted of Cornelius F. Roland, who was the president for many years; James Diller, Cashier; Wm. W. Kinzer, Edwin C. Diller, Aaron W. Snader, Esq., Jason K. Eby, Roland H. Brubaker, Henry Worst, George K. Reed and Dr. Isaac D. Winters.

The first meeting for the promotion of this organization was held at the Styer House on April 23, 1881. At this meeting the name of the proposed bank was chosen, and the books were opened for subscription of stock.

The Farmers National Bank was organized January 24, 1907, with the following composing the board of directors: E. Lewis Roseboro, as president; Charles S. Zwally, cashier; Dr. H. C. Showalter, Abraham Groff, Isaac G. Martin, Norman A. Graybill, D. Graybill Weidman, Amos Hess, Diller P. Herr and H. L. Stauffer.

The bank was moved into their first permanent quarters February 1, 1908, and into their present banking house on January 15, 1927. This last building was largely the effort of A. B. Groff, the president of the board, who, however did not live to see this modern institution completed.

**Picture on preceding page, left to right, Farmers National Bank and New Holland National Bank.

Military Activities of Men of New Holland and Vicinity

MILITARY ACTIVITIES

Although mention is made of several Revolutionary soldiers, and of those who saw service in the Mexican War, more detailed information is presented concerning those patriotic men, who enlisted in the Union Army during the Civil War. I feel that the admirable service rendered by the soldiers of this community during the Rebellion, should be better known and understood by the present generation.

BATTALION DAYS FOR MILITARY PRACTICE

Special days were appointed for the State Militia to meet at the battalion center. All able-bodied men, between the ages of 21 and 45 years, were to report and receive training in the art of military practice. If they failed to report they were required to pay a small fine. Every militia man was supposed to furnish his own gun, sword or stick, with which he went through the maneuvers as required by the captains and colonels. There was a great deal of marching and drilling, but the real instruments of war were not produced in many cases.

In the old Herald, of March 20, 1829, appears this notice:

"Staff Appointments of the 51st Regiment---1st Brigade, 4th Division, P. M. of State Militia: Dr. Wm. S. Wallace, Surgeon; Dr. Isaac C. Weidler, and Dr. Thomas J. M'Camant, Surgeon Mates; Balser VonKannon, Adjutant; Adam Bare, Quarter Master; Isaac Diller, Quarter Master Sergeant; John Varns, Sergeant Major; Samuel Davis, Fife Major and Harrison Smith, Drum Major.

"The above officers will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

"Henry M. Brubaker, Col."

The nearest battalion centers to New Holland were Reamstown and Strasburg. Great crowds of interested and frolicsome spectators gathered on all such occasions. These parades were regarded as a general holiday, and besides the military benefits derived from them, the street hucksters and tavern keepers always reaped a rich harvest. A regular military company was formed at New Holland, soon after the Mexican War. It was organized and fitted with uniforms in 1856. We shall be glad to let Capt. Abraham Setley tell

the story as given by several papers in 1911, from an old original manuscript:

"An Old Military Company As Organized at New Holland in 1856

"The boys were full of life on military day. They were all dressed in the finest uniforms and armed with muskets and full equipments, with a good band in full dress uniform. The band belonged to the Company. We often paraded through the town and drilled on the streets. Captain Isaac Hull was in command. It seems only yesterday, when we were drilling on double quick, that the captain running backwards, fell over the pump frame, extending out into the street in front of Anthony Roberts' house, now owned by Aaron Snader. The company came to a full halt and we picked him up very little hurt. I was a private in the company and was later made sergeant. When we paraded, every one in the town turned out to view us, and the majority kept up with the band. The instruction I received then, came in good for me when the Civil War commenced. Few of the old company and band are living. In 1855, there were eight companies in the county.

"The names of the living of the old company are: Abraham Houser, George S. Hieser, Henry Nagle, Adam Overly, of New Holland, and Abram Setley, Diller L. Shirk, Theodore S. Ream, of Philadelphia, and John M. Souders, of Lancaster."

ROLL OF EARL INFANTRY BAND

"The roll of the Earl Infantry Band was: Isaac Witwer, leader and instructor; Jacob Mentzer, Amos D. Smoker, John Grimley, Henry Nagle, Peter Ream, Jr., Theodore S. Ream, George Mentzer, John Winger, George S. Keizer, John Frymyer and Abraham Houser.

ROLL OF EARL INFANTRY

The roll of the Earl Infantry was: Captain, Isaac Hull; First Lieutenant, Diller L. Shirk; Second Lieutenant, Jacob P. Hull; Third Lieutenant, Adam Overly; Sergeant, Samuel Davis; Second Sergeant, William A. Sheaffer; Third Sergeant, Charles Ream, Jr.; Fourth Sergeant, John Houser; Corporal, Jacob Ream; Second Corporal, William H. Ream; Third Corporal, William Grimley; Fourth Corporal, G. W. Sheaffer; Surgeon, Dr. Samuel Ringwalt; Quarter Master Sergeant, Jonathan Woodward; Privates--D. A. Beck, Coleman Leed, Christian Kline, John D. Pauling, L. P. Ream, Samuel K. Groff, John M. Souders, G. F. Steinheiser, Isaac

Morres, William Coffroad, Isaac Davis, Thomas Dinan, Samuel J. Smiley, William Nagle, Isaac Frymyer, George P. Parrish, William Norres, Joseph W. Hull, Abram Setley, Richard Frankhouser, David Clay, Israel Maring, George F. Schneider, James Frill, Levi Deiveler, Emanuel Sides, Francis killian.

The infantry band, organized in 1856, was for many years one of the most popular bands in the county. It served many engagements under the leadership of Isaac Witwer, who provided a special hall in the construction of his three-story building. The members of the band enlisted and reenlisted in different organizations during the Civil War. On September 2, 1864, a number of New Holland men, reenlisted for one year in the 203rd Regiment, P. V. Their musical talents were soon discovered. With Mr. Witwer as their leader, and with five additional men taken from the regiment, they served as Regimental Band for ten months, when the war came to a close. The band having received an honorable discharge, returned home with marks of rough usage and battered instruments. They marched through the Main street of New Holland, playing "Home Again," and were most enthusiastically received by the citizens of the town. A number of them, with many others of the village and vicinity, had been in the service over three years.

The members of the Regimental Band, all of whom returned home, were: Isaac Witwer, Jacob S. Townsley, Henry Nagle, Henry Besore, David Besore, Jacob Diffenderfer, George Geigley, William Grimley, Isaac Davis and George Keiser, all of New Holland, and Amos O. Stirk, of Terre Hill. All of these men had several terms of enlistment, mustering in as an organized Regimental Band September 2, 1864 and serving to the end of the war. They came home June 22, 1865.

Fort Sumpter was fired upon April 12, 1861. President Lincoln called for 75,000 men for three months' service, April 15, for the defense of the common union. Before the end of the first year of the war, New Holland and the adjoining districts were well represented on the battle fronts. A number of men from this community remained in the army during the conflict for the entire four years. Not a few received their death wounds and were sleeping under southern soil, when their comrades returned home amid the plaudits of the nation.

The first large group of men to leave this community in one company was recruited at Mechanicsburg, by Captain Abraham Setley. He was a young moulder, who was work-

ing at that place, but lived with and was the main support of his widowed mother in New Holland. She reluctantly gave her consent that he could go to war, but in her parting advice she said: "Abe, I hope I shall never hear that you were shot in the back."

This company, which became a part of Co. A, of the 99th regiment, was mustered into service July 26, 1861. They volunteered for a three years' enlistment. They were known as "The Mechanicsburg Boys," but many hailed from adjoining districts, as will be seen by the following list of names gathered from newspaper clippings, and from Samuel P. Bates' "History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers."

It might be stated here that George Setley, brother of Captain Setley, was color guard at Devil's Den, in the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863. He was the last of eight color guards to be wounded, and was shot and killed by a rebel guard, when he tried to escape.

The company was composed of: Frank Weidler, Benjamin McElroy, Daniel W. McElroy, Henry Landis, Samuel Parsons, Wm. G. Warren, Richard Miller, Samuel Mooney, Alexander McKeever (Killed at Fredericksburg), Henderson Curley, Henry C. Fassnacht, John Anderson, Milton Swope (wounded at Petersburg), William McMichael, William Jacobs, Thomas Leed, Jacob Norris (died in the service), William Norris, D. S. Hinsberger, William Heller (killed at Gettysburg), Henry Grube, Peter Murr, Nathaniel Sprecher (died in the service), Joseph Enck, John McQuait (died in the service), Elam Reiter (still living at Hinkletown), Joseph Miller, Daniel K. Miller, Benjamin F. Filbert, A. P. Wenrich, George Homer, George Ledkey, Frederick Glausure, James Barben, Jacob Armedt, Joseph Gundizer, Henry Flickinger, John C. Wittle, G. S. Amey, C. M. Barnes, William Hoover, Isaac Frymyer, John H. Mason, Samuel B. Martin, William Oberholtzer, George Flower and John Wiley.

This company marched away from Mechanicsburg, July 28, 1861, and became a part of Company A. of the 99th Regiment of Penna. Vol. With companies B and D, wholly made up of Lancaster county men, they were sent to Washington. The companies were drilled in picket and fatigue duty several months, for miles around the city, until the regiment was filled in February, 1862. They were sent south into the peninsula campaigns and engaged in many hard--fought actions with "Stonewall" Jackson's seasoned troops, but missed the Battles of Antietam and South Mountains. They were engaged in the battle of Fredericksburg in December, and in the mud march that followed towards

the Wilderness, and were in the thick of the battle of Chancellorsville. They entered the Pennsylvania campaign, and half of their number were left on the field of Gettysburg, in dead and wounded.They were among Meade's foremost veterans in the pursuit of Lee's fleeing army, until they went into winter quarters on the banks of the Rappahannock in the latter part of November, 1863.

In this pursuit on November 7, 1863, Captain Setley was ordered to protect the men laying a pontoon bridge across the river at Kelley's Ford. In order to gain a foothold on the opposite side of the Rappahannock, he and his brave "Mechanicsburg Boys" and others, waded through the chilly November waters to their armpits, exposed to the fire of the enemy, whose balls plowed the waters around them. The shore was reached and many prisoners taken. The bridge was laid, and the entire left wing of Meade's army passed over it. In this action, Captain Setley was severely wounded from which he never fully recovered.

Many of the men re-enlisted in February, 1864, and the Regiment was finally mustered out. The company returned on July 8, 1865.

This Regiment, leaving in 1861 with its full number of one thousand soldiers, had on its rolls over twenty-five hundred men during its four years' service. Only three hundred men were left at the close of the war in April, 1865.

Nineteen years later, Capt. Setley, then proprietor of the Eagle Hotel in this place, entertained forty-eight of his comrades in their annual reunion of the "99th," at his home, on May 10th, 1884. The New Holland Brass Band furnished the music, and the old veterans recounted their days of peril and triumph. One touching address was "Twenty Years Ago, Tonight," another was "Chancellorsville." "Marching Through Georgia," was sung by all standing around the banquet table, and at the request of the visitors, Capt. Setley sang "The Northern Man's War."

Some of the men had not met since the time of their discharge, and these reunions were happy events in their lives. At that time, there were one hundred and eighty-five men left of their entire organization.

Captain Setley served three years as clerk of the Orphans' Court, 1872-1874, and three years as clerk of Quarter Sessions, 1885-1887. He was later appointed as conductor in the U. S. Mint, at Philadelphia, having held a post in the house of Representatives at Washington. He died September 24, 1916, and rests with his kindred and many of his comrades, in the Lutheran cemetery of his old home.

During the first year of the war, a number of other men from this place volunteered in the various regiments recruited in Philadelphia and other points. The next general enlistment, which caused many desolate homes in New Holland, was in the summer of 1863. Col. Emlin C. Franklin, of Lancaster, received authoritty from Governor Curtin, to raise a Regiment, which was accomplished by having a recruiting station one mile east of Lancaster, where fourteen companies of exclusively Lancaster county men, were raised. They were mustered into the service and formed the 122nd Regiment. Smith P. Galt and John S. Rodgers, both of East Earl Township, were captains in Co. C. They had the largest number of the men from Earl in their company, although there were a number scattered among other divisions. They were mustered into the National service August 11, 1863 and by August 16 were doing picket duty in front of Washington. Their position was changed several times before going into winter quarters. They were with Burnsides and Hooker, in the Virginia campaign, encountering Virginia mud the following spring. They were in the thick of the fight at Chancellorsville under General Sickles, where the regiment lost one hundred and thirty-five men.

During this terrible battle, General Whipple fell mortally wounded and died on the field. His remains were sent to Washington with the 122nd regiment as an escort at his funeral. Their term of enlistment having expired, the regiment was sent to Harrisburg. It was honorably discharged and mustered out of the service on the 15th and 16th of May 1863. Many of the men, however, soon re-enlisted in the service of their country, as is shown by the records.

A number of the men who served in the Chancellorsville and adjacent campaigns, whose names are familiar to the people of New Holland, deserve to be mentioned. I regret that the names are not all available or known.

They are: William Ayers, Isaac Ames, Jacob Ames, Benjamin Bunker, Martin Buzzard, John Buzzard, Israel Bear, Uriah Cake, Effinger Cake, Jeremiah Cake, William Coldren, Daniel Clark (wounded at Chancellorsville), David Clay, William Diffenderfer, Levi A. Diller (wounded at Chancellorsville), Jacob Erb, Smith P. Galt (Capt.), George Geigley, Samuel Groff (wounded and missing at Chancellorsville), Peter Frankhouser, John Fritz, John Houser (missing at Chancellorsville), David Hartranft, Adam Huyard (lost both legs in the service), Nathaniel Murr, William McCarty, Benjamin Mull, John Miller, Isaac Morrow, Jessee McQuate, Joseph H. Martin, William C. Nelson, Adam Overly, John S.

Rodgers (Capt.-Teacher), Jacob Rishel, Andrew J. Stein, Jacob Souders, John M. Souders, George Stirk, Amos O. Stirk, (Evangelical minister and presiding elder), Isaac C. Stoner (Teacher), John Wentzel. These men were only home a month when General Lee invaded Pennsylvania with the flower of the Confederate army, in June, 1863. Numerous companies were hurriedly organized over the entire state for protection against the enemy. Governor Curtin issued a call for sixty thousand men to be mustered into the service of the state for ninety days, or longer, if the danger of invasion had not ended in that time: The battle of Gettysburg was fought July 1, 2 and 3rd. Col. J. P. Wickersham, principal of the Millersville State Normal School, recruited the 47th Regiment Militia, to be composed of companies A, C, F, H, and K.

Co. A, being recruited at New Holland, was made up with the following men of this place and vicinity:

Captain, John S. Rodgers, Terre Hill. The men as we could list them---Henry J. Besore, John A. Besore, David F. Besore, Byron Bensinger, Zimmerman Bowman, Charles C. Brown, J. Roland Diller, Joshua Diller, William E. Diller, Jacob Diffenderfer, Adam Eby, Samuel Esbenshade, Abraham R. Eshleman, John M. Fetter, Edward B. Fry, Jacob Fritz, John H. Geist, Martin R. Good, John H. Groff, George Geigley, Isaac Good, David Hartranft, Isaac B. Hawk, David High, Elias A. Hoffman, Daniel Horst, Henry Houder, Martin Jacoby, Mathias Kaley, Davis Kane, W. H. H. Kinzer, Geo. Kraft, John G. Kurtz, William S. Murr, Emanuel Mull, Christian Musser, Henry Morrow, Martin B. Myer, John L. Miller, John G. Moore, Cyrus Mehring, Henry Mentzer, Diller Mentzer, Samuel L. Oberholtzer, Wm. Eckert Richwine, John O. Roland, Aaron C. Ranck, Daniel W. Ranck, David W. Ranck, Edwin S. Ranck, Adam S. Ranck, Martin Ranck, Samuel S. Ranck, Edwin Rannals, John Ream, Christian S. Rickle, Reinhold Rhoads, Amos S. Rutter, George W. Russel, John K. Rutter, Jacob Souders, Elias Shirk, George Slote, Byron Slote, George W. Simpson, Samuel H. Sides, Frank W. Sensenig, Roland D. Shirk, Jacob Spotts, John M. Stauffer, John W. Steen, Amos M. Stirk, Isaac Sensenig, Jacob B. Shaub, Jacob Townsley, Gabril W. Taylor.

In Co. F, of the same Regiment was: E. Lewis Roseboro.

In Co. F, of the 50th Regment were: Adam Geist, William Grimley, George W. Smith, William Norris, William Diffenderfer, A. Jackson Yundt, Ephraim Warfel, Daniel K. Weidner, John Wentzel, John Woomert, John M. Wallace and Isaac Witwer.

Company A was sent to Camp Curtin at Harrisburg. They left on Friday morning, July 17, 1863, to join the State forces at Chambersburg.

The Fiftieth Regiment, which was entirely composed of Lancaster county men and commanded by Col. Emlin Franklin, had left Camp Curtin for the Cumberland Valley, on the previous Sunday morning.

The Forty-seventh guarded the southern borders of the state several weeks. They were then sent to Berks and Schuylkill counties and into the mining regions, quelling anticipated troubles. They were discharged at Reading on August 14, 1863.

During the fall of 1863 and 1864, and the early spring of 1865, many men of the community whose terms of enlistment had expired, as well as new recruits, again went to the front. They enlisted for terms of from one to three years in the 77th, 79th and especially the 195th and 203rd Regiments, and nearly all remained until the end of the war in the summer of 1865.

Dr. W. S. Yundt, and Dr. Israel Bushong, served in the army several years as surgeons.

Jessie Kaley lost his life at Fair Oaks, and his son, John Kaley, was killed before Petersburg.

Among those from here who became part of the 195th and 203rd and other regiments, after the invasion of Pennsylvania (many of whom sleep their last, long rest in our beautiful cemeteries) the following names were gathered after much research:

The entire military band, as mentioned on a preceeding page, George Deitrich, George U. Ream, Capt. William D. Stauffer (afterward Mayor of Lancaster, and Prothonotary of Lancaster County), Israel Bair, John S. Rodgers, Eli Weaver, Solomon Martin, Uriah Cake, A. M. Clime, Christian H. Shirk, Isaac Sensenig, Cyrus Gehr, Harvey Gehr, Andrew Shrom, John Shrom, James Dunlap, David Hauck, Jacob Souders, Jacob Trostle, David Faust, James Davis, Levi Davis, James Freel, James Fisher, Andrew Houck, Mathias Houck, Isaac Glasser (in an Ohio Regiment), John Blair, William Bensinger, David Bender, Nicholis Bowers, Samuel Clark, Cyrus Stillwell, Jacob Lafferty, Washington Sheaffer, Henry Sharley, Uriah Usner, Jacob Usner, Martin R. Good, Daniel Rife, Mathias Reazer, Henry Raezer, Jefferson Reazer, Amos M. Yohn, Augustus Buck, John L. Jacobs, Samuel J. Weiler, John H. Sweigart, John Rine Mentzer, George Harkey, David Rutter (wounded at Wilderness, May 5, 1863; died at Washington), Silas W. Duchman (died in the service),

Jacob L. Shiffer, George Fred Yohn, George A. Cook, Philip Sprecher, Michael R. Good, Jonathan Weaver, Mathias Kaley, Thomas Burns, Isaac Stillwell, Amos Rishel, Levi W. Overly, John L. Weaver, Elias Diem, John E. Diem, David Mason, Samuel Patton, John Patton, Daniel Grube, Lemuel Correll, Isaac M. Sheaffer, William Sweigart, Benjamin Mull, David Bowman, Andrew Bowman, Samuel Hinkle, Isaiah McCarty, Isaac C. Nelson, Samuel Setley, John Setley, Cornelius Souders, William Souders, Plank Irwin, Henry Murr, Adam Murr, David T. Miller, Samuel McIntire, Isaac W. Hull and Jacob Michael.

Although New Holland was far removed from the scene of actual conflict the residents had experienced and felt very deeply the horrors of the war. Over three hundred different enlistments had occurred from this community during the four years. Many of these men had lost their lives and a number of others were still scattered over the southern tented fields.

New Holland with the rest of the country, was wild with joy, when the glad tidings were flashed over the land on April 12, 1865, that General Lee surrendered.

President Lincoln issued a proclamation, appointing the 14th day of April, as a day of thanksgiving and rejoicing. New Holland joined in the day of gladness with unusual fervor and feeling. A public meeting was held in the afternoon at which Rev. J. W. Hassler (the new pastor of the Lutheran Church, who moved to town a few days before) offered a fervent prayer of thanksgiving.

Rev. Keys, the eloquent pastor of the U. B. Church, delivered a most soul-stirring address suitable to the occasion. David S. Slouch, the well-remembered photographer, and at that time teacher of the town's high school, was song leader. The large audience and chorus of voices sang many national and patriotic songs.

The time of rejoicing was short-lived, as the next morning, April 15, the sad news of Lincoln's death was spread over the entire land. A thick pall hung over the entire North and South, and New Holland felt the gloom. Uncertainty and suspense lingered for a short time. But the National greatness and the integrity of the people remained firm after this great calamity. Strength and stability, and an unwavering faith in God prevailed, and the impending new perils faded before the tide of prosperity. And now, sixty-three years later, there is a new South and a new North and a reunited people.

The writer feels that this work should contain the names of those young soldiers from this community, who were in their country's service during the World War. It would be profitable to them, to the community and the country at large, if one of their number would write a history of their experiences. They could compare the advantages and worth of the different modes of living, which were noticed by them within the last ten or fifteen years.

The United States declared war against Germany on April 13, 1917, nearly three years after the breaking of relations between Germany, France and Belgium.

Registration was taken of all the young men between the ages of 21 and 31 years on June 5, 1917. The examination of these men by qualified boards began at the different centers on August 15th of the same year.

The entry of the United States in this world conflict was the turning point of the war. The arrival in France, of the fresh, strong American troops, inspired the allied forces with new hope and power. The German army could not withstand the advance made in the fall of 1918. It capitulated and the German government made terms of peace on November 11, of the same year.

In grateful remembrance of the deeds of daring, privation and sacrifice, suffered and endured by those who fought to maintain the rights of liberty in the world, the following names are presented. They are given in the same order as on the memorial tablet erected to their honor on the public school grounds. The names are of those men who enlisted, or were inducted into the national service from this community, and were honorably discharged after the war had ended. A few paid the supreme sacrifice.

The men, as their names appear on the tablet are:---Robert Allison, William B. Bair, Harold Butz, James Bair, Horace Brubaker, Wilson Bair, James H. Boots, Norman Bryan, William Bowman, Samuel Brendle, Ira Difebaugh, Harry Doerr, Raymond M. Dunlap (killed in action), Milford Dennis, Herbert Doerr, Earl F. Esbenshade, Charles R. Fry, Henry R. Fenninger, Lester D. Glouner (died), Amos D. Geist, R. T. Getz, Raymond Gensemer, Luther S. Graybill, Parker H. Kuhns, Allen A. Hammond, Charles S. Hammond, L. H. Hendrixon, M. D., William E. Harner, Milford H. Hagler, Lawrence H. Himes, Harry J. Kochel, M. V. Kochel, Lester R. Kochel, Roland N. Klemmer, Guy Lengel, J. Frederic Mearig, Roy K. Musselman, Charles A. Mentzer, Harry B. Mowery, M. Luther Moore (died), Paul L. Martin, Gilbert Overly, Charles Peters, Fred Peck, Jonas M. Ranck,

Alfred Reser, Edward Ranck, Leon Ranck, John Renninger, William Renninger, Charles Reamsnyder (killed in action), Raymond Renninger, V. Leon Smith, Willis Seldomridge, George Spotts (died) Harry K. Miller, Daniel W. Snader, Benjamin F. Sandoe, Edwin Spotts, Henry M. Storb, Paul Stone, William Sites, George W. Schnupp, Bernell M. Snader, George T. Storb, Ralph Spotts, John Sandoe (died), Levi Sensenig, Isaac Sensenig, Paul S. Schnupp, Cyrus Toogood, Howard Toogood, Isaac D. Usner (died), Raymond Unangst Martin B. Varns, Robert H. Wright, Jr., W. Owen Wolf, Irwin R. Weaver, Howard S. Worrell, Roy Wallace, Chester A. Wenger, Ira Welsh, Carl Wenger, Charles Wanner, Charles F. Yost, Amos Zimmerman.

Conestoga Post No. 662, American Legion was formed some years ago, and the organization now owns the east half of the Roberts Building, and have furnished and re-decorated the place.

A RELIC OF LONG AGO

From the Clarion of July 17, 1875, we have the following:

"The history of the old cannon, which has for so many years served to announce the annual return of our Natal day, until the ninety-ninth anniversary, when it was shattered to pieces at the fourth charge on July 4th of this year.

"We are indebted to Roland Diller, Esq., of this place, for the following, which we publish in its entirety from a small pass book which he has in his possession, believing it will be read with interest, not only by our citizens but also by our younger people. From it we may learn some of our changes which have taken place in our town during the last sixty-four years:

" 'Conditions Entered Into For The Purpose Of Procuring A Cannon For The Use of The Village of New Holland:

" 'May 29, 1811,

" 'We, the subscribers promise to pay the several sums annexed to our names for the purpose of purchasing a cannon of suitable calibre, to be in the care and under the directions of Col. David Shirk, of the village of New Holland, but to remain jointly our property and to be disposed of at any time a majority of us may direct.'

"Then followed a long list of subscribers of New Holland and vicinity, who contributed sixty-two dollars and two cents, ($62.02).

"The cannon was bought at the old Navy Yard, at Philadelphia, but what was paid for it we are unable to state.

The object of procuring the cannon, was merely for the purpose of celebrating our National Independence and other great festivities, from which it will be seen, that even our grandfathers considered the explosion of gunpowder necessary to the proper celebration of our Natal day.

"It however, once proved a very serious affair. Fifty-nine years ago, (July 4, 1816), while John Lowery and George Brimmer were engaged in loading the cannon on the Fourth of July, it was prematurely discharged, instantly killing Lowery, and so seriously wounding Brimmer, that he lost an eye and an arm.

"For a long time the cannon was taken care of, but for a number of years past was neglected, and being exposed to the weather the carriage at length gave out, and lately it has been lying on the ground from one fourth of July to another.

"By the explosion on the fourth just passed, the faithful old gun was broken into nine pieces which were hurled in many directions but fortunately no one was injured."

John Brubaker p. 58
Isaac Brubaker p. 60
Christian Brubaker p. 60
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